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# ARAB TIMES

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'Hanging by Iraq barbaric': 'Mrs Thatcher wanted him alive. We sent him in a box'

## Outrage at execution of Bazoft

LONDON, March 16, (Agencies): Iraq's execution of British-based journalist Farzad Bazoft prompted a storm of international protest but Britain stopped short of breaking off diplomatic relations.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher called the hanging barbaric while Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd told Parliament the Baghdad authorities "have blackened the name of Iraq across the world."

Britain's ambassador in Baghdad was recalled but the Iraqi envoy in London is not being asked to leave, Hurd said.

Iranian-born Bazoft, 31, who worked for Britain's Observer newspaper, was executed yesterday after being convicted of espionage. He was arrested last September for investigating into an explosion in a secret military plant southwest of Baghdad. A British nurse, Daphne

Parish, was sentenced to 15 years' jail for driving him there.

"Mrs Thatcher wanted him alive. We sent him in a box," Information Minister Lati Nassif Jassan told reporters in Baghdad, where Bazoft's body was handed to the British embassy.

A joint European Economic Community (EEC) declaration issued in Dublin said the 12 EEC members were "utterly dismayed" at the execution.

"They had appealed to the Iraqi authorities on humanitarian grounds to exercise clemency and are profoundly disappointed that this human appeal was not heeded," it said.

The EEC did not threaten reprisals but diplomats said further action was not ruled out. In a Brussels statement, the EEC's executive commission called the execution an unspeakable act.

UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said he deeply regretted Iraq's action and the US State Department deplored what is called Iraq's undue haste in hanging Bazoft.

Other protests came from Britain's opposition Labour Party, Observer editor Donald Trefford, the International Federation of Journalists and Britain's National Union of Journalists.

But Iraq's Ambassador in London, Azmi Shafiq Al Salibi, remained unrepentant.

Interviewed on BBC radio, he indicated world pressure on Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to halt the execution may have been counter-productive.

"Those who want clemency should say 'please' before they ask for clemency, not put pressure on my leader and my country," he said.

Hurd told Parliament a total break in diplomatic and trade links would be counter-productive. "In fact measures of that kind would be less effective and might end up doing no harm at all to Iraq and damaging this country more," he said.

In addition to recalling the envoy, Britain also ordered home all six Iraqis attending Ministry of Defence courses. It also announced a freeze on visits by government ministers to Iraq and cancelled a trade mission.

But there was also the fate of Parish to consider when determining retaliation, diplomats said.

Bazoft, unmarried and the eldest of four children, first came to Britain in 1975. He studied at North Oxfordshire Technical



Bazoft

(Continued on Page 4)

## Missile developed

WASHINGTON, March 16, (Agencies): Iraq is building a plant to manufacture uranium needed for nuclear bombs and Western companies have helped Baghdad develop missiles capable of hitting targets in the Soviet Union and Israel as well as in neighbouring Iran, a US television network said yesterday.

ABC News showed photographs and construction plans for what it said were three sites for missile development, testing and production near Baghdad.

A spokesman at the Iraqi embassy in Washington had no comment on the report.

In London, the journalist who broke the initial explosion story said today, Iraq has rebuilt the blast-wrecked secret missile research base which executed reporters Farzad Bazoft was accused of spying on.

Adel Darwish, a journalist with the London newspaper the Independent, said in a radio interview with the British Broadcasting Corp. that the base — which had been rebuilt at another site — was working at 65 per cent capacity of the original facility.

## Soviet reforms to go on



Gorbachev delivers his final address to deputies. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Gorby's hand full of power

MOSCOW, March 16, (Agencies): Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev was elected executive president by the Soviet parliament yesterday and immediately pledged to use his sweeping new constitutional powers to press ahead with reforms.

But the vote for Gorbachev at the Congress of People's Deputies, the expanded Parliament, was less than overwhelming despite the fact that he was the only candidate for the post.

He received 1,329 favourable votes to 495 against. Deputies said he had been opposed by arch-conservatives and arch-radicals.

Gorbachev also announced that he had no intention of giving up his post as Communist Party chief at present, saying it was in the country's interest that he keep it. Many people fear Gorbachev has concentrated too much power in his hands.

"Such a combination (of posts) today and in the nearest future is dictated by the interests of perestroika (reform)," he said.

After electing him president, the congress moved to strip him of one of his other jobs — chairman of the Parliament.

The current deputy chairman, Anatoly Lukyanov was elected chairman.

Gorbachev, 59, delivered an acceptance speech in which he spoke of the urgency of dealing

with the country's economic problems and suggested he would use presidential decrees to force through change.

"We need decisive steps and breakthroughs on radical economic reform. It is also the practical task of the president to implement our reforms," he said.

In his new post, Gorbachev will have the power to rule by decree and veto legislation as well as to declare war and call referendums.

He is expected to make use of these powers in grappling with a host of problems, including the economic crisis, a mass loss of public confidence in the leadership, separatism in the Baltic republics and ethnic violence in Transcaucasia and Central Asia.

Gorbachev invited radical reformers to a high-level Communist Party debate today on further political changes. One official said the changes threaten destruction of the party, Soviet media said.

In the first 24 hours in his new, more powerful post of president, Gorbachev also tried to tone down the heated emotions over Lithuania's attempt to secede from the Soviet Union.

Gorbachev today called on Arab states not to misinterpret his country's intentions regarding the Jewish emigration to occupied Palestine, but said that Moscow will not ban Soviet Jews from leaving the USSR.

(See Pages 4 and 7)

## Shamir falls

First no-confidence vote in history of Israel

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, March 16, (Agencies): Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has no plans to resign despite a revolt erupting in his right-wing Likud bloc after his government's defeat in a parliamentary no-confidence vote, a Shamir aide said today.

Shamir met with Likud's government ministers, but party rivals Housing Minister David Levy and Economics Minister Yitzhak Modai, who have been trying to engineer his ouster for

months, did not attend the session.

Labour leader Shimon Peres said he hopes to form a new government with the backing of 70 members of the 120-seat Knesset, or parliament.

The Knesset, Israel's parliament yesterday passed the no-confidence motion on a 60-55 vote with five members absent. It was the first time since Israel was founded nearly 42 years ago that a parliamentary vote of no-confidence had brought down the government.



Shamir confers with Trade Minister Moshe Nissim during the Parliament session. (Reuter wirephoto)

Under Israeli law, President Chaim Herzog decides who should form the next government. He scheduled meetings Sunday with Labour and Likud leaders, but Israeli newspapers reported already that the 66-year-old Peres was the likely choice.

Shamir, 74, whose government was the first in Israel ever turned out in a no-confidence vote, remains caretaker prime minister until a new government is formed, a process that could take months.

Both Labour and Likud already have begun wooing ultra-orthodox religious parties that hold the balance of power for forming a new coalition.

While the crisis that brought down Shamir's government began with Labour and Likud disagreements on joining US-backed peace talks with Palestinians, the Labour victory came in horse-trading to gain the votes of religious factions.

Some Likud Knesset members suggested today that Shamir would have to step down as party leader of Likud since several religious party leaders have accused him of breaking promises to support religious legislation.

"I believe that Shamir will eventually decide to resign because he cannot form a narrow government as long as Agudat Israel opposes his leadership," said lawmaker Tzahi Hanegbi, referring to an ultra-orthodox faction that backed Labour in Thursday's vote.

The Likud legislator said possible replacements could be Levy, former trade minister Ariel Sharon or Foreign Minister Moshe Arens.

Israel radio reported Levy planned to meet with other Shamir rivals Saturday night in advance of another meeting of Likud ministers Sunday.

Asked if Shamir was thinking of stepping down, Achimeir replied: "I didn't even hear a hint coming out of his mouth. He will continue to lead as long as the party wants it."

Peres told Tel Aviv schoolchildren today he believed about 70

(Continued on Page 7)

## Imelda in US to face racketeering charges

NEW YORK, March 16, (Agencies): Former Philippines first lady Imelda Marcos arrived in New York yesterday to face charges of looting her nation's treasury to secretly buy Manhattan office buildings and her lawyer angrily denounced the United States for putting foreign heads of state on trial.

Imelda, wearing a black dress and accompanied by her son, Ferdinand Marcos Jr, waved to photographers and reporters as she stepped off a flight from Honolulu.

But the former beauty queen, who normally basks in the glow of publicity, looked subdued and managed only a brief smile when she was presented with a dozen red roses by well wishers at Kennedy airport.

She goes on trial next Tuesday, along with Saudi arms dealer Adnan Khashoggi, in Manhattan federal court on criminal racketeering and conspiracy charges, but will make a brief pre-trial court appearance today.

She could receive up to 50 years in jail if found guilty in the case in which she is charged with



Imelda

a \$345 million racketeering scheme in connection with the alleged siphoning of more than \$100 million into New York's real estate and art.

Her lawyer Gerry Spence, who is known for flamboyant dress and wears a Stetson hat, told Reuters in an interview that the United States had no business prosecuting foreign leaders.

"One of the things the world ought to be asking is what gives the United States the right to try heads of state," Spence said.

The trial is expected to last two to three months and jury selection is scheduled to begin on Tuesday.

## Fire guts chemical plant in Libya

TRIPOLI, March 16, (Agencies): A fire heavily damaged the Libyan chemical plant at Rabta, a spokesman for the official Libyan news agency said yesterday.

Another Libyan official said sabotage was suspected in the blaze at the plant outside Rabta, about 60 miles (96 kms) southwest of Tripoli, the capital.

Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi pointed an accusatory finger at West German intelligence services after the fire at the controversial chemicals factory.

At least two people died at the plant which the United States says has started producing chemical weapons.

"Our attitude in the Bonn government and its intelligence services depends on the investigations which have now begun," Khaddafi told the official news agency Jana.

"If the current investigations prove that West German intelligence is involved in any act inside Libya, then Germany's economic presence in Libya will be eliminated," he added.

"That state which is involved in spying and sabotage for the interests of imperialism and Zionism will lose out," he said.

Khaddafi said if Libya wanted to produce "weapons of total destruction" it would not hesitate to do so openly.

In Cairo a hitherto unknown group, the Organisation for the National Wing of the Libyan Army, said it had started the fire.

The recorded message passed in a long-distance phone call to the Cairo office of a West German television network said the group started the blaze "after making sure that the plant was making

(Continued on Page 7)

## Dispute with V.P. Singh Devi Lal quits

NEW DELHI, March 16, (Agencies): Deputy Prime Minister Devi Lal resigned today in the first political dispute within Prime Minister V.P. Singh's 3-month-old coalition government.

United News of India said Devi Lal, 75, resigned from the cabinet because he believed some coalition leaders were trying to malign him and his son.

The news agency said a letter of resignation was sent to Singh, but there was no word if the prime minister accepted it.

Newspapers and several politicians have accused Devi Lal's son, Om Prakash Chauthala, of being responsible for violence and vote-rigging in last month's state assembly elections in Haryana state.

Chauthala was named chief minister of the state in December after Devi Lal resigned the post to join the federal cabinet. Under Indian law, Chauthala had to be elected to the Haryana state assembly within six months of his appointment as chief minister to be official.

He was a candidate for by-elections from the Mehram constituency on Feb 27, when police shootings killed at least 13 people. The election commission, a watchdog body that oversees voting, said new elections would be held.

Industries Minister Ajit Singh, who is not related to the prime minister, visited Mehram after the election and demanded the resignation of Chauthala "on moral grounds."

Opposition lawmakers of former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress (I) Party disrupted proceedings in the upper house of Parliament, demanding a statement from the government on Lal's resignation.

The house was adjourned when the Congress (I) Party members refused to sit down.

Ajit Singh is known to be a rival of Devi Lal. Both claim to be leaders of the Jat community, Hindus who live mostly in Haryana and in the western region of neighbouring Uttar Pradesh state.

## NEWSWATCH

### Life term

PARIS, March 16, (Reuters): A French court sentenced Argentine navy captain Alfredo Astiz to life imprisonment today for the 1977 torture of two French nuns.

### Three killed

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, March 16, (Reuters): Israel said its troops killed three Palestinians today inside its self-declared security zone in southern Lebanon.

### 'Eagle' cancelled

STRASBOURG, France, March 16, (UPI): Nato commanders for central Europe cancelled today "because of the situation in eastern Europe" manoeuvres codenamed "eagle" that were scheduled to begin on Monday and last until March 28.

### Policeman killed

JOHANNESBURG, March 16, (Reuters): A black policeman arrested over the killing of a senior white officer in South Africa's Natal province was himself shot dead today by a policeman.

### Key to hostages

RASHAYA, Lebanon, March 16, (Reuters): A senior Hezbollah official said today the United States, France and Israel held the key for the release of Western hostages in Lebanon.

### Arafat sees Nathan

TUNIS, March 16, (Reuters): Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat met Israeli peace campaigner Abie Nathan in Tunis today.



Opening the Wall

A youth takes a hammer and chisel to a section of the Berlin Wall near the Brandenburg Gate. It was the opening of the Wall last November 9 that has in part led to East Germany's first democratic elections in 40 years. (Reuter wirephoto)

### Space eye

WASHINGTON, March 16, (Reuters): America launches the world's most sophisticated telescope into orbit next month, promising the clearest view ever to the farthest stars in the search for other life and clues to the birth of the universe.

### DAY BY DAY

SOME Arab political intellectuals still believe that they are in the era of the 50s where talk on imaginary issues and baseless accusations pleased people, whose mouths were kept shut.

In the present era, mouths are open and issues are expressed through newspapers, cassettes, fax or through meetings. Everybody says what one wants and says it freely.

People do not any more believe in anything, except the truth. Imaginary talk has become like the stories of "One Thousand and One Nights."

Zahed Matar

## Weather

FAIR weather with light, variable to moderate south easterly wind and some clouds will appear.  
State of sea: Slight to moderate  
High water: 3.33 am, 2.37 pm  
Low water: 9.00 am, 9.50 pm  
Sunrise: 5.56 am  
Sunset: 5.58 pm  
Maximum temperatures recorded:  
Kuwait: 25°C 77°F  
Abu Dhabi: 21°C 70°F  
Fahala: 25°C 77°F  
Minimum temperatures recorded:  
Kuwait: 11°C 52°F  
Abu Dhabi: 15°C 59°F  
Fahala: 14°C 57°F  
Maximum temperatures expected:  
Kuwait: 27°C 81°F  
Abu Dhabi: 24°C 75°F  
Fahala: 25°C 77°F  
Maximum humidity recorded:  
Kuwait: 74 per cent  
Abu Dhabi: 60 per cent  
Fahala: 62 per cent

## Bomb explosion injures Indian home minister's brother



Muslim women take to the streets of Srinagar to join the rising tide of protest against Indian rule in Jammu and Kashmir. (Reuter wirephoto)

SRINAGAR, India, March 16, (UPI): Separatist militants in the troubled Kashmir valley yesterday detonated a powerful bomb that injured the brother and nephew of India's Home Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, police said.

In related unrest, clashes between militants and security forces left one person dead and seven others injured in the northern Jammu and Kashmir state capital of Srinagar, 400 miles (640 km) north of New Delhi.

Police said militants opened fire on a Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) patrol in the Lal Bazar area of Srinagar about 9 am. No member of the patrol was injured, but when the patrol returned fire a woman bystander was killed and five other people were injured.

In the Soura area of town, militants shot at a CRPF patrol, injuring one patrol member and in the Khanayara area a CRPF member was injured when a militant threw a hand grenade at a police patrol.

Meanwhile, in the town of Bijbehada, 28 miles (45 km) south of Srinagar, police said a blast ripped through the home of Mufti Ghulam Rasool, brother of Indian Home Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed, shortly after 5 am.

Police said Rasool and his young son sustained injuries in the blast and were treated at a local hospital.



Demonstrators carry anti-German placards during a protest in front of the West German embassy in Libya. (Reuter wirephoto)



## INTERNATIONAL



Cosmo-reporter

A private television network announced that one of its reporters will blast off in a Soviet rocket later this year to become the first Japanese, and possibly the world's first reporter, in space.

One of two cosmonaut candidates from the Tokyo-based TBS network is to lift off from the Baikonur space centre in the central Soviet Union Dec 2 and return Dec 10, network officials said.

Journalists Ryoko Kikuchi (left) and Toyohiro Akiyama explain the hatch of a model of the Soviet space station Mir at a press briefing in Tokyo.

## Roh gets free hand as cabinet resigns

SEOUL, March 16, (AP) Prime Minister Kang Young-Hoon and his entire 23-member cabinet resigned today to give President Roh Tae-woo a free hand to reorganise the government following a major political merger.

Government officials said Roh is expected to announce a new cabinet lineup tomorrow after consultations with his two fellow governing party leaders, Kim Young-Sam and Kim Jong-Pil.

A cabinet reshuffle has long been anticipated after Roh merged his governing party with two centrist opposition groups, led by the two Kims, to form a giant conservative party last month.

Government officials have indicated a sweeping cabinet shake-up would be needed to inject "fresh air" into national politics, following the three-party merger.

They had said a reshuffle could be

made after the national assembly ended a special session today.

Local newspapers, quoting unidentified government sources, reported the reorganisation would be extensive, probably affecting nearly two-thirds of the 22-member cabinet.

The national news agency, Yonhap, said with up to 18 posts likely to be affected, the reshuffle would be the largest since Roh took office in the spring of 1988. The previous shakeup in December 1988 affected 16 posts.

Almost all vernacular newspapers reported Roh would retain Kang as prime minister but replace Deputy Premier-Economic Planning Minister Cho Soon and most of the cabinet's other economic members.

Foreign Minister Choi Ho-Joong, now on a tour of several Asian and Eastern European nations, and Defence Minister Lee Sang-Hoon are likely to be kept, the papers said.

## Ex-suspect sworn in as MP

NEW DELHI, March 16, (Reuters) A Sikh once accused of involvement in the 1984 assassination of prime minister Indira Gandhi was brought from jail today to take the oath as a member of India's Parliament.

Atinder Pal Singh, now being held on other charges, won a seat last November in Punjab, where Sikh militants are fighting for a separate homeland.

He was never tried on charges of conspiracy in Indira's killing, carried out by two of her Sikh bodyguards. Indira's son Rajiv ordered charges against Singh dropped just before quitting as prime minister after defeat in the November general elections.

Singh, wearing a yellow turban and sporting a flowing beard in orthodox observance of his religion, was brought from Delhi's Tihar jail under heavy security to the Lok Sabha (lower house) to be sworn in.

# Filipino coup leader captured

MANILA, March 16, (AP) Soldiers yesterday captured a fugitive army explosives expert who was an alleged leader of last December's failed coup against President Corason Aquino, the military said. But two others escaped from a military hospital.

In a related development, three military officials were dismissed after they allegedly organised a mutiny in the western island of Palawan last month, a report from the defence department said.

Maj. Wilhelm Doromal, a former explosives instructor at the Philippine military academy, was arrested at about 7

am (2300 GMT Wednesday) at a house in the Manila suburb of Novaliches, a constabulary report said.

The military said Doromal led mutineers in seizing the government radio and television complex during the Dec 1-9 coup attempt, the sixth and bloodiest bid to topple Aquino.

A 500,000-peso (\$22,000) bounty had been offered for his capture.

The report said government troops seized a rifle, several rounds of ammunition, sticks of dynamite, detonating cords and blasting caps in the house where Doromal was captured.

Doromal, who offered no resistance, was flown to constabulary headquarters camp in Quezon City and his being investigated, the military said.

Doromal had been court-martialed and acquitted in a March 1987 bombing at the Philippine military academy a few days before Aquino was supposed to speak before graduating cadets.

Four people were killed and 39 others were injured in that blast.

More than 1,900 rebel soldiers and officers, including three flag officers, have been taken into custody since the coup attempt.

The defence department announced yesterday that the military had relieved the chief of staff, the intelligence chief and the sergeant major of the armed forces' western command in Palawan province.

Two officers who joined December's coup attempt escaped from a military hospital where they were recuperating from wounds suffered during the mutiny, a military hospital spokesman said today.

A battle over congressional confirmation of the agrarian reform secretary is viewed in Manila crucial to the controversial land redistribution plan that was once a hallmark of Aquino's administration.

## Indians in final phase of pullout

COLOMBO, March 16, (Reuters) The 5,500 Indian soldiers remaining in Sri Lanka will leave for home in the next few days, Foreign Minister Ranjan Wijeratne said yesterday.

The withdrawal is now in its final phase, said Wijeratne, who is also deputy defence minister.

India has said the withdrawal will be completed by the end of March but no date has been announced for the final troop departure.

Fifty thousand Indian troops were sent to the northeast in 1987 under a pact between Colombo and New Delhi to end a separatist rebellion by the minority Tamil community.

All Tamil militant groups, except the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, accepted the controversial accord.

Meanwhile, tribal organisations and opposition politicians threatened yesterday to attack and evict Tamils who have sought refuge in eastern India from fighting in Sri Lanka.

Some 4,000 armed police sealed off camps in the remote Koraput tribal area of Orissa state where India housed 1,600 Tamils this week. Officials said the refugees needed protection from Sri Lankan guerrillas.

But the refugees are also under threat from local people, who have tried to block roads to keep them out and who now threatened unspecified "agitation" to evict the Tamils.

# Birendra talks of reform

### 150 writers, artists arrested as unrest grows

KATHMANDU, March 16, (Agencies) After 27 days of a democracy movement marked by strikes, arrests and deaths in clashes with police, King Birendra for the first time held out a promise of reforms "within the constitutional framework" but did not offer to meet opposition demands to legalise political parties.

At the same time, police arrested nearly 150 writers and artists in the capital as they protested suppression of freedom.

The king has talked on reforms within the partyless framework which is far short of the demands of the opposition who have called for multi-party democracy.

The king made no mention of negotiations and said: "Any unconstitutional activity that disturbs peace, tranquillity and security will hinder the exercise of democratic rights and development in the country."

He also said, "there can be no solution to the problem where there is irresponsible behaviour and undignified acts disregarding the interest of the country and people."

The opposition was not immediately available for comment to the king's speech because most of them have been arrested or are underground.

Police broke up a silent protest at the capital's Tri-Chandra campus by nearly 150 writers and artists who protested repression by covering their mouths with black bands.

The protesters had planned to stage a sitdown strike at the Royal Nepal Academy but it was heavily guarded.

Among those taken away were popular political humourists and television artists Madan Krishna

and Hari Bansha Arharya, and novelist Daman Shumshere Rana.

At Patan campus police arrested assistant campus chief Hem Lal Shrestha and police baton-charged demonstrators, eyewitnesses said.

Police and students clashed yesterday in an engineering campus south of the capital and noted satirist and editor Keshav Pindali was arrested, witnesses and press sources said.

Unrest continued in the Himalayan kingdom amid general strike called by the student-led pro-democracy movement demanding an end to the Panchayat 29-years-old partyless system.

At least 13 people have been killed in violence and hundreds have been arrested since Feb 18, when a coalition of outlawed political parties began waging its campaign of strikes and demonstrations.

Pindali, 76, and editor and publisher of the weekly newspaper Bimarsah was arrested by policemen in civilian clothes who came to his office, showed an arrest warrant and took him to jail, according to the newspaper's managing editor Harihar Bihari.

## Hong Kong unveils bill of rights

HONG KONG, March 16, (AP) The government unveiled a draft of the first bill of rights for Hong Kong today in a move to reassure citizens that human rights will be safeguarded after the territory reverts to Chinese rule in 1997.

The proposed Hong Kong bill of rights ordinance will not, however, have legal precedence over the basic law or the constitution under which China will govern Hong Kong after the Chinese takeover.

China has stated repeatedly it would amend or repeal any laws inconsistent with the basic law, which was finalised by a Hong Kong-Chinese committee last month.

Beijing has pledged to safeguard human rights in Hong Kong and retain the British colony's legal and capitalistic systems for 50 years after 1997.

The proposed bill of rights amends the colonial constitution, called the Letters Patent, to incorporate into local law the provisions of the international convention on civil and political rights that apply to the colony.

"In democracy it is the duty to abide by the provisions and processes of the constitution while seeking solutions to problems," said the king in an address at a government rally broadcast over government radio.

"Our political tradition relies on popular will and the mandate given by the national referendum in the basis of retaining the Panchayat system," the Harvard-educated monarch said. He referred to a 1980 vote which the government says endorsed the ban on political parties.

## Three more killed in Kashmir revolt

SRINAGAR, March 16, (Reuters) Three more people died in a separatist revolt in Kashmir yesterday and a civil liberties group accused India of violating human rights in its only Muslim-majority state.

Police said the wife of a state government official was shot dead when militants fought one of their daily street gunbattles with security forces in the summer capital Srinagar.

They also said the bullet-ridden bodies of a man and a woman had been found at a roadside on the city outskirts.

In New Delhi, the People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL), a leading human rights organisation, said of Kashmir: "Our immediate impression is that basic human rights, civil liberties, legal norms and civilised values have been grossly violated by security forces and administrative authorities in dealing with the situation on many occasions."

A government spokesman denied the charge. "No human rights or civil liberties have been violated," he said.

Srinagar police yesterday said three Indian policemen were wounded in militant attacks during a seven-hour break in the curfew imposed on the city of 800,000 people for much of the past seven weeks of revolt.

They said the official's wife was caught in the crossfire in one clash in Lal Bazaar in Srinagar's old city and a 10-year-old girl was injured there.

Residents said both were hit by security force gunfire. They alleged police had beaten local people and opened fire in revenge for the militant attack.

A 500-strong crowd chanted anti-Indian slogans outside the hospital where journalists saw the girl and six other people, who said they had been beaten with rifle butts.

PUCL said alleged violations by Indian security forces had aggravated a sense of alienation which, "by all accounts, is by now almost total" in the Himalayan Kashmir valley.

PUCL said its investigators had questioned lawyers, government employees and scores of ordinary Kashmiris.

India charged yesterday that Pakistan had planned to train 10,000 subversives with the help of Afghan mujahideen to carry out terrorist and militant activities against India.

## Violence, rigging mar Bangla polls

DHAKA, March 16, (Reuters) Rival groups with guns and home-made bombs have killed one woman and wounded nearly 500 other people during Bangladesh rural elections this week, police said.

Bangladeshi and foreign monitoring groups said ballot stuffing, snatching of ballot boxes and under-age voting were rampant despite strong presence of security personnel at polling stations.

The latest violence was reported from Hathazari sub-district in southern Chittagong area where two powerful members of the ruling Jatiya Party were the main contestants.

The incumbent sub-district chairman of Hathazari, Jatiya leader Wahidul Alam, told reporters armed men burst into

voting centres, tore up papers, threatened poll officials and pushed three vehicles into a pond.

"Many voters ran away for fear of their life. Others who stayed were told that all the votes were cast by 11 am" Alam said.

Election officials earlier told reporters the presence of ministers near polling stations provoked tension and even helped to neutralise security measures.

One woman died and about 500 people have been wounded in sporadic violence since Wednesday, police told reporters. More than 100 people have been arrested.

The election is seen as a test case for President Hussain Mohammad Ershad's commitment to fair elections but monitoring groups said there was rigging.

"There was evidence of rigging and ballot piracy," Father R. W. Timm, president of the Co-ordination Council for Human Rights in Bangladesh, told reporters.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### China castigates

BEIJING, March 16, (Reuters) China launched a harsh attack on resident foreign journalists today, accusing them of victimising the Chinese government and undermining social stability.

### Martial law lifted

RANGOON, Burma, March 16, (AP) The Burmese government has lifted martial law in 12 townships near the capital of Rangoon, the state-owned Working People's Daily reported today.

### 'King of opium' indicted

WASHINGTON, March 16, (Reuters) The alleged "king of opium," Khun Sa who operates in the "Golden triangle" nations of Laos, Burma (Myanmar) and Thailand, has been indicted in the United States on 10 drug-trafficking charges, US attorney general Richard Thornburgh said yesterday.

### Oil tanker afloat

SINGAPORE, March 16, (Reuters) A Norwegian oil tanker stricken by an explosion and fire off Singapore yesterday was still afloat and causing no pollution problems the day after a spokesman for the ship's agent said.

### Elephant kills Italian

BANGKOK, March 16, (Reuters) An elephant trampled an Italian tourist Salvatore Vassallo to death outside a supermarket on the Thai holiday island of Phuket, an Italian embassy spokeswoman said today.

### Coup attempt fails

PORT MORESBY, March 16, (Reuters) An apparent attempt to overthrow Papua New Guinea Prime Minister Rabbie Namaliu failed late on Wednesday night, an Australian diplomat in Port Moresby said yesterday.

### Hashish seized

KARACHI, Pakistan, March 16, (Reuters) Pakistani authorities have seized a record 36 tonnes of hashish from a boat found damaged and abandoned in the Arabian Sea, it was announced yesterday.

### Foretich leaves

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, March 16, (Reuters) American heart surgeon Eric Foretich left for home yesterday describing his weekend meeting the daughter he had sown the world to find.

### Support rate rises

TOKYO, March 16, (AP) Public support for Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's cabinet has hit its highest level yet, according to a newspaper poll released yesterday.

### Jiang Zemin returns

BEIJING, March 16, (AP) China's Communist Party General Secretary Jiang Zemin returned Friday from a three-day trip to North Korea, the first country he has visited since assuming office last June.

### Taipei clash

Military police battled opposition leaders in the gardens of the presidential office compound on Friday and dragged away politicians who wanted to stage a sit-in to protest not being allowed to see President Lee Teng-hui.

Presidential aides said Lee was busy at a meeting and could not meet officials of the Democratic Progressive Party, whose supporters have clashed with police since Tuesday to protest decisions taken by the national assembly which they say has created a constitutional crisis.

### Currently at drive-in cinema

The exciting film "The Untouchables" is now showing at the drive-in cinema.



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## PEOPLE AND PLACES

**ALTON, Illinois:** After 52 years of separation, Joseph and Elizabeth Pipkin are ready to get married again.

They originally wed in 1932 in Oklahoma, but the marriage ended after six years and two children, and they went their separate ways — she to Illinois, he to Oregon.

"We were just too young," said Mrs Pipkin.

That will not be a problem this time. Both were 77 when they took their vows again Saturday, although in Pipkin's view, there is still plenty of time. (AP)

**NEW YORK:** It looks as if the opening of Atlantic City's newest casino will have to do without an appearance by America's newest tabloid sensation Maria Maples has pulled out.

Maples, whose relationship with billionaire Donald Trump has been the subject of extraordinary speculation since his separation from wife Ivana, had been announced as a guest at the opening of Trump's Taj Mahal on April 5. (AP)

**STELACOOM, Washington:** Arab and Jewish women danced while holding olive branches, and served matzo ball soup and baklava at a social gathering to promote peace in the Middle East.

About 250 people attended "Bella's, Bagels and Baklava," a five-hour dinner dance Sunday night sponsored by the 2-year-old group Tzema Arab, Jews and others for peace. (AP)

**MANSFIELD, Connecticut:** An 18-year-old college student is being investigated on suspicion of trying to gain illegal access to a long distance telephone network, authorities said.

The student at the University of Connecticut is accused of trying to gain the secret access code of ATX Telecommunication Services of Philadelphia; University police said Wednesday. (AP)



**Hey! I've got it!**

Buffalo resident Mark Waldo holds up the ball after 'scoring' during a game of mud football, March 14. Temperatures in Buffalo reached into the high 70s, setting new records and melting snow in parks, which created the mud that these boys were playing in. (Reuters wirephoto)



**Gorbys a real doll**

A stuffed 'Mikhail Gorbachev doll' being prepared for sales in Japan and Europe by a Japanese doll-maker, Avani Ltd. The dolls will be put on the market around May for 3,800 yen (\$25). (Reuters wirephoto)

**ANCHORAGE, Alaska:** Redoubt Volcano erupted again Wednesday, hurling gritty volcanic ash some 30,000 feet (9,100 metres) into the sky, where wind blew it toward Alaska's largest city, officials say.

Ed Wolfe, a spokesman for the Alaska Volcano Observatory, called it a "modest eruption," similar in energy to one that occurred Friday. (AP)

**ATLANTA, Georgia:** Kim Beshinger received an award in one of the shortest skirts ever won in the office of Secretary of State Max Cleland.

State employees put the phones on hold and hung on the actress' every word during the ceremony Monday honouring her as an outstanding Georgian. (AP)

**MILAN, Italy:** The leader of the illegal P-2 Masonic Lodge awaiting trial over Italy's biggest private banking failure, won back his passport on Wednesday but a court told him he could not leave the country. (Reuters)

**LOS ANGELES, California:** Entertainment colossus MCA Inc. on Wednesday bought the last big independent music label Geffen Records, the home of such strong rock acts as Guns n' Roses, Don Henley, Cher, Aerosmith and Whitesnake. (AP)

**WINSTON-SALEM, North Carolina:** Graham A. Martin, who as the United States' last ambassador to south Vietnam coordinated the chaotic airlift of US personnel, has died of complications from emphysema. He was 78. (AP)

**Sex line up**  
**Mothers convicted**

**ALLEGAN, Michigan:** March 16, (AP): Two mothers face life prison sentences for lining up their six children and allowing them to choose among them for sex.

A jury Wednesday deliberated about 40 minutes before convicting Carolyn Wilson, 42, and Annette Sanford, 34, of criminal sexual conduct.

They were accused of allowing men to rape and molest their children in exchange for money or drugs several times a week from 1985 to 1988.

Wednesday's convictions involved only the rape of Wilson's son, now 13, and her daughter, now 15. Sentencing was set for March 23.

## Paris fashion show

## Kenzo joins Russian fad

**PARIS, March 16, (UPI):** Paris paid homage to reforming Russia in the opening fall-winter women's ready-to-wear shows, with the noted designer Kenzo Takada joining the movement.

Kenzo's presentation, on the third day of the 10-day parades for 700 world-wide store buyers and 500 journalists, included typical Russians hats with ear flaps. This came in elegant red trimmed with black fur, unfindable in Moscow.

Underneath swung full short skirts and belted jackets in lively Russian folkloric prints while Russian music floated through the Kenzo salon. Models hid under babushka head scarves or little Russian fur pillboxes over full skirts or loose trousers and slim jackets with brocade closures.

Kenzo's collection, so perfectly cut and tasteful for women of all ages, was personified by his subtly draped sky blue coat dress with soft lapels and mailbox pockets. Another good number was a draped pearl-gray skirt and toast-brown tailored jacket dressed up by black velvet collar and cuffs.

The audience also liked pleated mini skirts, coats with bugle buttons, cigarette-slim jersey tights or wider trousers cut far above the ankle.

Chantal Thomass decorated her stage in one of the Louvre Museum courtyard tents, where most of the 92 shows are being held, with a little carved roof as on ancient Russian log houses.

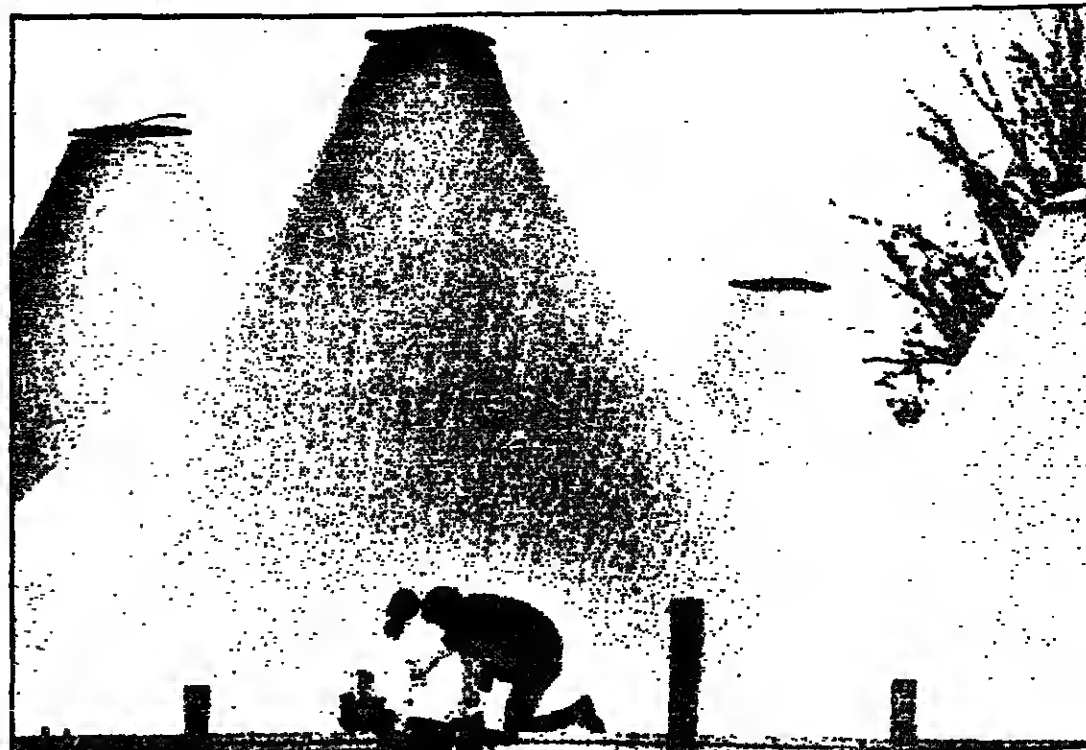
Since she is revered as a far-out designer, deafening American rock tunes about Russia belted out while her models paraded in

velveten cassock pants, long fitted medieval Russian jackets and typical visor caps.

Flowers, folklore and fun kept the runways peppy Wednesday as fall ready-to-wear shows by Lolita Lempicka kicked off the marathon week of shows in the French capital.

Leg-lovers will adore the ever-present minis and those who like longer lengths for winter will see plenty of them. The colour scene ranges from conservative to hot combinations.

Lempicka's best ideas for attractive yuppies were in daytime wear. Her outstanding suits featured red-piped houndstooth-checked jackets and fitted holers or figure-hugging blazers with lovely sheer black and white polka-dotted minis or easy long pants.



**Tent city**

Two construction workers secure the support fixtures around a tent city being built beside the Vincent van Gogh museum in Amsterdam, March

14. The museum opens a major exhibition of the famous Dutch painter's works later this month. (Reuters wirephoto)

## 'Escapade' into second week in a row

## Janet stays atop pop chart

**NEW YORK, March 16, (AP):** "Escapade" kept Janet Jackson at the top of the pop singles record charts in the United States for the second week in a row.

Roxette's "Dangerous" stayed on for the second straight week in second spot on the Cash Box Magazine Chart, while "Roam" by B52 jumped up from sixth to third.

Last week's number three hit, "Opposites Attract" by Paula Abdul, slipped to sixth.

Three newcomers made their way into the top 10 list this week. "No More Lies" by Michel Le moved from 12th to 8th; Billy Joel's "I Go to Extremes" from 14th to 9th; and "Black Velvet" by Alanah Myles from 20th to 10th.

"Seein' My Father in Me" by Paul Overstreet rose to the top of the Cash Box Magazine country-and-western singles chart, while Randy Travis' "Hard Rock Bottom" was second and "Chains" by Patty Loveless was third.

The top 10 pop singles, as rated by Cash Box magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (1) Escapade — Janet Jackson (A and M)
2. (2) Dangerous — Roxette (EMI)
3. (6) Roam — B52 (Reprise-Warner Brothers)
4. (7) The Price of Love — Bad English (Epic)
5. (5) We Can't Go Wrong — Cover Girls (Capitol)
6. (3) Opposites Attract — Paula Abdul (Virgin)
7. (10) Come and Get My Love — D-Mob, Introducing Cally Demaiti (Polygram)
8. (12) No More Lies — Michel Le (Atco-Ruthless)
9. (14) I Go to Extremes — Billy Joel (Columbia)
10. (20) Black Velvet — Alanah Myles (Atlantic)

The top 10 country-western singles, as rated by Cash Box magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (2) Seein' My Father in Me — Paul Overstreet (RCA)
2. (3) Hard Rock Bottom — Randy Travis (Warner Brothers)
3. (1) Chains — Patty Loveless (MCA)

4. (6) Not Counting You — Garth Brooks (Capitol)
5. (5) Sooner or Later — Eddy Raven (Universal)
6. (10) Right in the Wrong Direction — Vern Gossdin (CBS)
7. (8) Here in the Real World — Alan Jackson (Arista)
8. (9) Five Minutes — Lorrie Morgan (RCA)
9. (11) Just as Long as I have You — Don Williams (RCA)
10. (16) Stranger Things Have Happened — Roney Milap (RCA)

And in London for the third straight week, Beat International's "Dub Be Good to Me" topped the British pop singles chart, followed once again by "The Brits 1990" by various artists.

"Infinity" by Guru Josh moved into third spot, and JT and the Big Family moved up three spots to fourth with "Moment in Soul."

"Love Shack" shot up from 14th place to round out the top five. Also joining the top 10 for the first time this week was "Lily Was Here" by David A. Stewart.

This week's top 10 singles, as listed by our Price Music Ltd., the national music retail chain, with last week's places in parentheses:

1. (1) Dub Be Good to Me — Beats International (Go)
2. (2) The Brits 1990 — Various artists (RCA)
3. (6) Infinity — Guru Josh (De Construction)
4. (7) Moments in Soul — J.T. and the Big Family (Champion)
5. (14) Love Shack — B-52s (Reprise)
6. (17) Lily Was Here — David A. Stewart (Anxious)
7. (3) How am I Supposed to Live Without — Michael Bolton (CBS)
8. (4) Nothing Compares to You — Sinéad O'Connor (Ensign)
9. (10) Blue Savannah — Erasure (Mute)
10. (5) Enjoy the Silence — Depeche Mode (Mute)

## People often lie to have sex: survey

**BOSTON, March 16, (AP):** Here's an insight that may fail to shock dedicated students of the mating game: people often tell lies in order to have sex.

Two California researchers reached that conclusion about dating behaviour after taking a survey of college students.

They say it's a point worth keeping in mind when trying to decide whether potential sexual partners have ever done anything to put themselves at risk of Aids.

In the survey, 34 per cent of male respondents and 10 per cent of women admitted they had "told a lie in order to have sex." Even more said they would lie if a situation arose where it would be to their advantage.

The researchers noted that young people are advised to choose sexual partners who are at low risk of infection with HIV, the Aids virus. One way to do this is to question partners about their sexual pasts.

"The implications of our findings are clear," they

wrote in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine. "Patients should be cautioned that safe-sex strategies are always advisable, despite arguments to the contrary from partners."

The survey, which gave no margin of error, was based on questionnaires filled out by 196 men and 226 women at colleges in southern California. It was conducted by Drs Susan D. Cochran of California State University in Northridge and Vickie M. Mays of the University of California, Los Angeles. They published their results in a letter to the journal.

In the survey, 47 per cent of the men and 60 per cent of the women believed they had been lied to for purposes of sex.

Asked about hypothetical situations, many people said they would be willing to tell lies. For instance, 20 per cent of the men and 4 per cent of the women said they would lie about having negative Aids tests.

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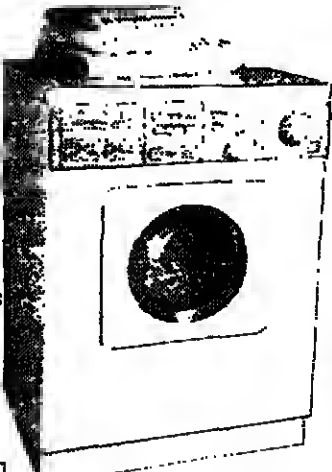
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# Vatican, Kremlin restore ties

## 70 years of mistrust ends

VATICAN CITY, March 16, (Agencies): The Vatican and Moscow officially ended seven decades of mutual mistrust yesterday, establishing permanent contacts that were expected to lead to full diplomatic ties and a papal trip to the Soviet Union.

A Vatican statement said the Holy See and the Kremlin would exchange ambassadors, restoring formal diplomatic contacts for the first time since they were broken in 1923, following the 1917 Russian revolution.

The exchange of ambassadors was by far the most significant advance for the Vatican in a year of tumultuous political change in the Warsaw Pact.

It followed the re-establishment of full diplomatic relations with Poland and Hungary and the reinstatement of bishops' hierarchies in Czechoslovakia and Romania after four decades of communist repression.

A Vatican statement said the exchange of ambassadors resulted from the decision by the Pope and Gorbachev to give official status to their relations.

But chief Vatican spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls said the new ties could be considered only "pre-diplomatic relations."

He said this was because the ambassadors would not yet reside in Rome and Moscow. Also, the Soviet envoy would have the title extraordinary ambassador and not ambassador plenipotentiary.

"We are not yet at a level of full diplomatic relations. This is a situation of pre-diplomatic relations but the personal status of these two people will be that of ambassador," Navarro said.

He said he did not know how long this situation would last.

"The announcement we are making today is so new and so important that we deliberately wanted to leave a certain margin for future development," Navarro said.

"The Holy See is very happy to begin this way and we hope it yields much good fruit."

The spokesman said the ambassador to Moscow would be Archbishop Francesco Colasuonno, the Pope's envoy for Eastern Europe. He guided the Vatican's restoration of ties with Warsaw and Budapest and negotiated the normalisation of church-state relations in Czechoslovakia and Romania.

Navarro did not know who the Soviet ambassador would be.

During their December meeting, Gorbachev formally invited the Pope to visit the Soviet Union. The Pontiff, who was denied permission for such a trip by several previous Kremlin leaders, said he would go when conditions were appropriate.

The Pope has said he wants to go to the Soviet Union in 1992 for a planned congress of the Ukrainian Catholic church, which Stalin outlawed in 1946 and forcibly merged with the Russian orthodox church.

During their December meeting, Gorbachev promised the Pope the Ukrainian church would become legal under a new law.

The Vatican said yesterday it projected 1990 deficit would be a record \$86 million and made a pressing appeal to Catholics around the world to help raise more funds.

A statement released after a meeting of the committee of cardinals who oversee the Vatican's finances said it expected income of about \$66.5 million and expenses of \$152.4 million, leaving a deficit of about \$86 million.

This was \$8 million more than its projected deficit for last year.

The historic announcement was made nearly four months after Polish-born Pope John Paul and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev met in the Vatican on December 1, the first encounter between a Pontiff and a Kremlin leader.

It was the crowning achievement of decades of Vatican "ostpolitik" — an attempt to keep churches somehow alive under communist repression — and the Kremlin's final recognition of the papacy, an institution it had often openly ridiculed.

## Lithuania declaration void: Congress

MOSCOW, March 16, (Reuters): The Soviet parliament yesterday ruled that Lithuania's declaration of independence was invalid and said Soviet law was still in force in the breakaway Baltic republic.

But Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, in a news conference after the parliamentary session ended, appeared to soften his earlier statements that the Kremlin would not negotiate with the rebel Lithuanians.

Gorbachev also suggested it was possible for Lithuania to secede from the Soviet

Union — over time, and by means of a referendum.

"Yes, I said we won't have talks; but we will have mutually respectful dialogue. That will take some time. My idea is to preserve the union on the basis of a different approach to each republic, on the basis of a new union treaty," Gorbachev said.

"If, in the final analysis, on the basis of a referendum, the population of Lithuania should decide to secede, it should be by a lengthy process which must include the

realisation of interests both of Lithuania and of the USSR," the Soviet President told reporters.

The resolution of Lithuania, introduced by the parliamentary leadership and recommended by Gorbachev, was approved by a vote of 1,463 in support and 94 against in the Congress of People's Deputies, the expanded parliament.

Anatoly Lukyanov, an ally of President Mikhail Gorbachev, was elected chairman of the Soviet parliament on Thursday, a parliamentary official announced.

## Soviet PM implicated in tank scandal

MOSCOW, March 16, (AP): A popular reformer implicated Premier Nikolai I. Ryzhkov and his cabinet in a failed scheme to sell a dozen Soviet tanks to the West. Ryzhkov furiously denied the charge and threatened to resign.

The tank scandal that raised eyebrows among Soviet newspaper readers two months ago erupted on the floor of the Soviet Congress in the midst of all-day debate and voting that centred on the country's new presidency.

Leningrad lawyer and opposition member Anatoly Sobchak took the floor for what was meant to be a brief chance to defend his support for small private businesses, known as co-operatives, launched by the Kremlin's reforms.

But the defence turned into an attack on Ryzhkov and the government for approving the co-operative that tried to slip a string of T-72 tanks to Western Europe through the Black Sea port of Novorossiysk in December.

Sobchak said the co-operative, known as Ant, was technically a subsidiary of a government agency and that Ryzhkov himself had signed its organisation papers.

Sobchak appeared to be trying to shift blame co-operatives to the government rather than blacken Ryzhkov's reputation, but the premier clearly took the attack very personally.



Swap of hats

US Army cadet Paul Schmitt (left) swaps his cap for a Soviet Army fur hat with Igor Grigorchin (right) as a West Point delegation is currently in Moscow as part of bilateral exchanges with the Red Army. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Washington did better than Gorbys

WASHINGTON, March 16, (UPI): Mikhail Gorbachev was elected first president of the Soviet Union unopposed with 71 per cent of the vote, but his victory did not come close to the total landslide recorded by the first US president.

In the balloting Wednesday by the Congress of People's Deputies, 1,329 lawmakers voted for Gorbachev and 495 voted against him.

The 495 lawmakers crossed out the "for" box on the ballot and left the "against" box unmarked. Another 122 of 2,000 deputies who received ballots did not return them.

In the United States 201 years ago, 69 electors from 10 states each had two votes to cast for two individuals. George Washington, who had been the commander of the new nation's military forces since independence was declared in 1776, run unopposed and got all 69 "first" votes to win the presidency. John Adams got 34 of the 69 "second" votes to win the vice-presidency.

Gorbachev was elected by the Soviet legislature, which was chosen by the citizenry recently. The Soviet president will be chosen by popular vote in 1995.

In the United States first presidential election, only Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia and Delaware had popular votes to choose electors. In Connecticut, Georgia, New Jersey, South Carolina and Massachusetts, either the legislature or a combination of the legislature and the voters made the selection. It was not until 1832 that all states chose electors by popular vote.

New York did not take part in the 1789 election because its senate and the assembly could not agree how to select electors, and North Carolina and Rhode Island were left out because they had not yet ratified the constitution.

Washington did better than Gorbys

Washington did better than Gorbys

Washington did better than Gorbys

Washington did better than Gorbys

## UK Tories may lose by-election

LONDON, March 16, (Reuters): Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservatives are headed for crushing defeat by the opposition Labour Party at next week's Mid-Staffordshire by-election, according to an opinion poll released yesterday.

The poll shows 54.5 per cent of voters in the Conservative stronghold now support Labour. Voting is on March 22.

Support for the Conservatives in the constituency was put at 34 per cent, according to the Gallup poll in today's Daily Telegraph.

The poll results were the latest in a series of opinion surveys showing the government trailing Labour by between 20 and 25 points.

## Socialists national congress opens

### Blast damages mosque in France

RENNES, France, March 16, (AP): The governing Socialist Party opened its national congress yesterday under heavy security after a bomb damaged a mosque near their meeting hall.

No one claimed responsibility for the pre-dawn explosion, which followed denunciations by President Francois Mitterrand and other Socialist leaders of recent attacks on Arab immigrants. Police mine-sweeping teams checked the conference venue, but reportedly found nothing suspicious.

The blast, apparently caused by an explosive planted against a wall of the mosque, heavily damaged the building and blew out dozens of windows in the surrounding neighbourhood, but no one was injured, police said.

The vice-president of the Federation of Muslims in France, Khalil Merroun, expressed his "indignation" at the criminal act carried out against the mosque.

A 35-year-old bus driver was charged with willful homicide for running over a 17-year-old Moroccan immigrant in the southeastern town of Roanne. In St. Florentin in central France, a 32-year-old cook has been charged with shooting two Moroccan brothers, one of whom later died.

The head of the local mosque in the northern French city of Tourcoing committed suicide today by setting fire to himself inside the building, police said.

A police spokesman declined to name the dead man or give any other details.

## European Parliament demands greater role in EEC decision-making

STRASBOURG, France, March 16, (Reuters): The European Parliament has demanded a greater role in European Economic Community decision-making — aiming to push its ambitions for a united federal Europe.

"It is increasingly necessary rapidly to transform the European Economic Community into a European union of federal type and going beyond the single market and economic and monetary union," the parliament said in a resolution.

Parliamentarians called for a greater say in decision-making rather than leaving key decisions for backroom bargaining in the powerful executive, the European Commission.

They called for the right to initiate legislation and for real legislative powers to amend or block draft laws. It also wants the right to choose the EEC commission president, and the final say on international agreements.

In December, the 12 EEC governments

launch a conference to consider economic and monetary union — a process which could lead to a common currency and a federal central banking system.

But the parliament, echoing demands by some of the EEC's more federalist capitals and the European Commission, said the conference should also proceed with political union.

It said this should include a united foreign policy "in the face of momentous events outside the community" and new

powers for the parliament and other EEC institutions.

The assumption among those who want to speed up integration is that political union would be a united Germany to the EEC and prevent future East European members weakening the bloc.

"Rapid changes on the international and European scene require the community to speed up its institutional development and the construction of European union," the assembly said.



Gorbachev is sworn in as the first executive president at a ceremony in the Kremlin. After being sworn in to the powerful new position Gorbachev vowed to combat growing nationalist and chauvinist tendencies, and prevent the country from splitting up. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Romania adopts blueprint for govt

BUCHAREST, March 16, (Agencies): Interim President Ion Iliescu declared the start of Romania's election campaign after parliament approved a blueprint for the country's first democratic government in four decades and confirmed elections would be held May 20 despite opposition objections.

The election law, approved Wednesday 44-3 with two abstentions, defines the new form of government as a democratic republic, to be headed by a president. It provides for a bicameral parliament similar to that in the United States, with a Senate and a House of Representatives.

Over the objections of opposition members, the provisional National Unity Council, or interim parliament, also confirmed the previously announced date of May 20 for the first democratic elections in post-war Romania.

"For three or even four days we discussed every article of the law at length and in detail and we finally arrived at a single platform, although not unanimously," Iliescu said.

He said all major political parties played a role in preparing the text of the law, which he described as the result of a "confrontation of opinions and options."

"The election campaign has

started," he told reporters.

Many of the provisions of the election law were debated and approved piecemeal over four days of debate before winning final approval Wednesday.

In a dramatic session late Tuesday, council members voted against postponing the May 20 elections, despite pleas by opposition parties for more time to campaign.

Several opposition leaders complained that the National Salvation Front, which dominates the provisional government, has an advantage because it controls the news media.

Also fiercely debated was a proposal to exclude former high-ranking communist officials from the government — a measure that would have barred many top figures in the Front from seeking office.

The proposal was defeated, and instead, the parliament approved a measure that would prevent anyone from holding a government post who "abused political or administrative office and violated basic human rights."

Exiled King Michael of Romania believes his country is again a constitutional monarchy, but only the people can decide what form their government should take.

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Kill Rushdie call

NICOSIA, March 16, (Reuters): An Iranian newspaper suggested yesterday that Britain should hand over author Salman Rushdie to a Muslim country to be executed for his phony against Islam.

The headline Jomhuri Eslami in Britain would have to pay dearly for Rushdie's novel "The Satanic Verses," which many Muslims consider a blasphemous insult to the Koran. It said Ayatollah Khomeini's decree to Muslims to kill Rushdie was not alterable or bound by time or distance, and many were ready to shed their blood to carry it out.

The paper suggested, however, that Britain could "hand him over" to Muslims in an Islamic country, but let the verdict be examined there. London is not willing to allow it to be carried out in British territory.

Rushdie, born to a Muslim Indian family, has been in "hiding" under police guard in Britain since the Iranian leader issued the edict on February 14, 1989.

### Zealous librarian

ZURICH, March 16, (Reuters): A Swiss librarian passed details of books borrowed by East European diplomats to the police. The Interior Ministry said today.

A ministry spokesman confirmed a television report that an employee of Switzerland's Federal bibliography sent copies of diplomatic borrowing slips to a police address for more than 15 years. The photocopy was sent a month ago.

The ministry said the librarian acted from patriotic motives and received no money for his actions.

Culture Minister Alfred Oetli said on television: "Heaven, paid for the photocopies and postage himself."

The librarian and another employee face disciplinary charges.

### Arms talks restart

VIENNA, March 16, (Reuters): The East-West "Conventional Arms Reductions talks" resumed in Vienna yesterday with the West promising what it said was the last element of treaty both sides would like signed by the end of the year.

The proposals, presented by Iceland on behalf of the 16-nation NATO alliance, comprised a draft treaty article on reduction of arms and armaments, with a timetable for their destruction and details of how still debate had ended last year.

"Together" (with previous proposals) the West has now proposed all major elements of a Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) treaty, a Western press release said.

The current, sixth, round of the CFE talks resumed after a three-week pause.

A day after Buzoff was named as a possible successor to the post of weapons systems will be a major step towards greater stability and security in Europe, which is the objective of these negotiations, the Western press said.

## Outrage at execution of Buzoff

(Continued from Page 1)

Colleges. His Anglophile father, who had worked for the British National Oil Company, sent his son to English language schools in Tehran. His English was better than his Persian.

After his education, Buzoff did a number of jobs before turning to freelance journalism.

But the criminal past of accused Buzoff added more intrigue today to the alleged espionage case.

A day after Buzoff was named as a possible successor to the post of weapons systems will be a major step towards greater stability and security in Europe, which is the objective of these negotiations, the Western press said.

British government officials insisted Buzoff's prison record had no bearing on the decision to maintain diplomatic and trade links with Iran.

British officials said Buzoff had served a year in a British prison was splashed across the front page of UK tabloid newspapers.

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British officials said Buzoff had served a year in a British prison was splashed across the front page of UK tabloid newspapers.

Neither Hurd nor police would describe the exact nature of the information other than to say it was "helping to do with Iraq. Buzoff said Buzoff had confessed to working for British police intelligence, and was taking instructions from an official named "Michael."

The Foreign Office stressed that in his criminal prison cell farewell to a British diplomat, Buzoff sent a message to British saying he was sorry he had involved her.

Iraq is organising huge demonstrations throughout the country tomorrow in an orchestrated show of anger at Britain for condemning the hanging of Buzoff.

The government-controlled press announced the protests today and denounced British criticism of the execution.

Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz accused Britain of showing a "double mentality in its attacks on Iraq. He warned other countries against being "dragged into this ill-considered campaign concocted by the British authorities."

Jordan's King Hussein has denounced Iraq against Western condemnation.

"We hope that the numerous tales which we see and feel... and that aim at mistreating Iraq, not only in this case but on others, will cease," he told Voice of America radio.



## Unification key issue in elections

EAST BERLIN, March 16, (AP): Here are some key points about East Germany's parliamentary elections Sunday.

**Main issue:** — East German unification with West Germany.

The communists and small leftist parties oppose a quick merger of the two Germanys. The left-leaning Social Democrats, Conservatives parties and centrist groups want rapid unification. At stake:

— 400 seats in the national parliament elected for a four-year term.

— The majority party, or a coalition, will run the next government.

**Electorate and rules:**

— About 12.5 million eligible voters, ages 18 or older, will choose among 24 parties or alliances listed on the ballot.

— Secret ballots to be marked in polling booths. No voting by mail.

**Main parties or alliances:**

— Party of Democratic Socialism (PDS), the renamed Communist Party, which claims about 650,000 members. Party chairman: Gregor Gysi. Top candidate: Premier Hans Modrow, head of East Germany's caretaker government. Latest polls show PDS could get about 18 per cent of the vote.

— Social Democratic Party (SPD), with about 100,000 members and widespread grassroots support. Party leader Ibrahim Bohme also is the party's candidate for premier. Latest forecast: About 33 per cent of the vote.

— Alliance for Germany, with about 230,000 members, comprised of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), headed by Lothar de Maiziere, Democratic Awakening (DA), headed by Hans-Wilhelm Eppelmann likely to be the top candidate of the alliance, which is expected to get about 30 per cent of the vote.



**Dismantling tank**

West German soldiers at work dismantling an M48 tank in Darmstadt on Wednesday, as part of the Bonn government's programme to remove 235 of the armoured vehicles from service this year in view of the changing political climate in Europe. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Yugoslav Parliament to press for statutory changes

BELGRADE, March 16, (Reuters): Communist Yugoslavia's Parliament called yesterday for the drafting of sweeping constitutional changes to create the basis for a multi-party system and federal control of the economy.

The federal chamber ordered a constitutional commission to draw up a draft of the constitutional amendments. Yugoslavia's eight republics and provinces must then discuss them and suggest revisions before they

can be adopted by Parliament.

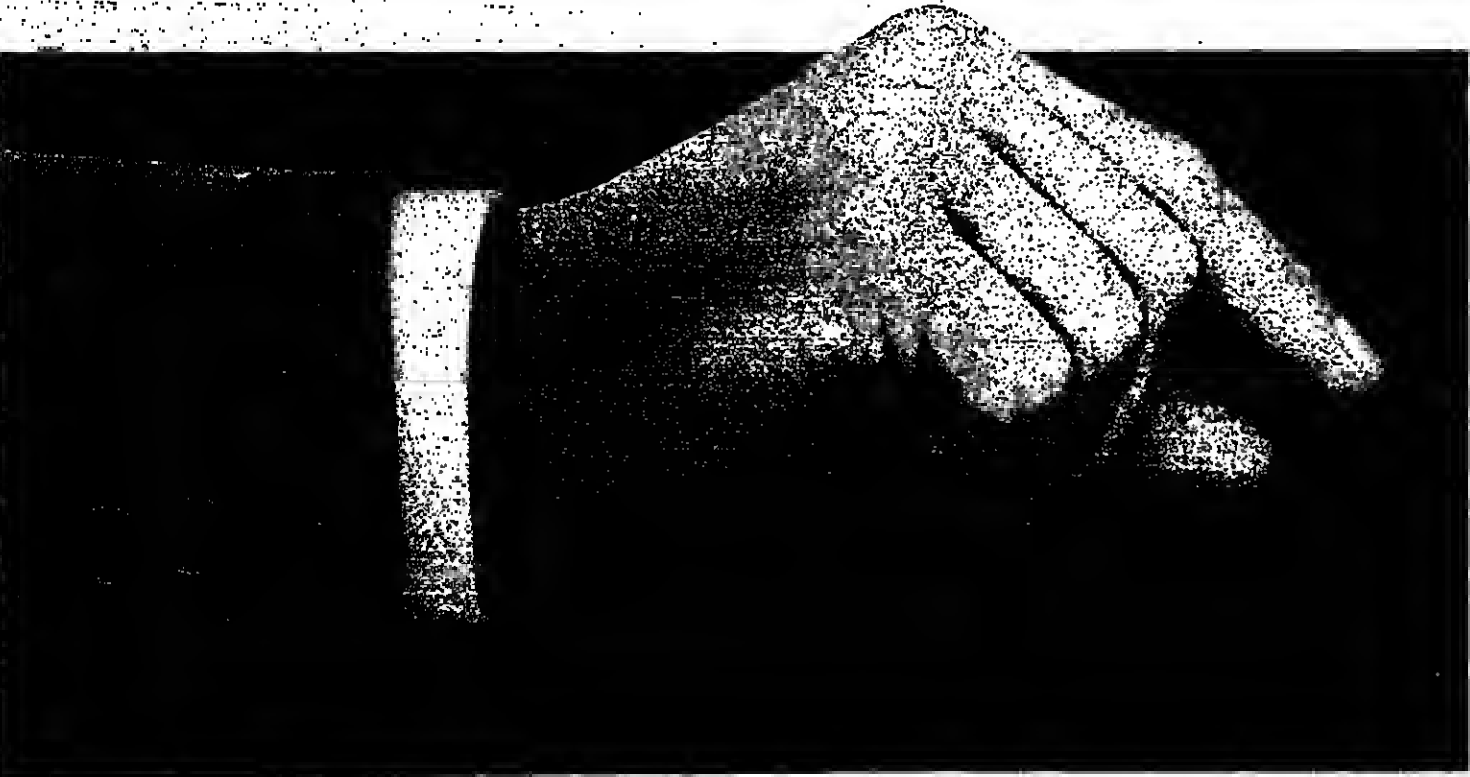
"The conditions have been created to initiate changes at the country's highest legal level," Tanjug news agency said after the 220-strong chamber approved the changes with one vote against and three abstentions.

Prime Minister Ante Markovic has said the 15 amendment are crucial to his Western-style reforms, introduced after 45 years of unchallenged communist rule. He wants the federal chamber to adopt them by the end of

April.

But he could face a fierce clash with Slovenia, the country's most Westernised republic. Slovenia opposes strengthening central power and could block some amendments because each one must be approved by all the republics.

The 15 constitutional amendments set out the right to form political parties and hold multi-party elections.



Newly elected Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee Politburo appear at a press conference. From right are: Gombojavyn Dabirbat,

general; N. Mishigdorj, secretary Ts. Gombosuren, secretary; L. Tudev, member; Ts. Oold, member. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Mongolia leaders promise free polls

ULAN BATOR, March 16, (Agencies): Mongolia's new Communist Party leaders yesterday criticised their predecessors for stifling democracy and promised to hold the country's first free elections after 69 years of communist dominance.

Reformist Gombojavyn Ochirbat, chosen on Wednesday as general secretary of the ruling Mongolian Peoples Revolutionary Party (MPRP), said the failures of former leaders had caused economic crisis and fomented public indignation.

"All I can say now is that Mongolian society must be entirely renewed," the grey-haired 61-year-old Ochirbat told his first

news conference as party leader. "There should be elections and the new political parties should take part on an equal footing with the MPRP," he added.

He did not say when elections would be held.

Four democratic movements have sprung up here since December, and a hunger strike last week succeeded in wresting promises from the ruling communist politburo to resign.

A key party plenum which ended on Wednesday announced the resignation, appointed new leaders and signed away the MPRP's constitutional right to rule.

"Democracy should develop,

all human rights should be ensured and social justice should prevail," Ochirbat said.

"The root cause of shortcoming in the life of our country was that democracy could not develop," he added.

Mongolians interviewed on Ulan Bator's snow-dusted streets welcomed their new party boss as an improvement on the man he replaced, 64-year-old Zhambyn Batmunkh.

"There is a saying in Mongolia," said one young man standing in the capital's central Sukhbaatar Square, President Bush has a good brain and a good tongue. President Gorbachev

has an excellent tongue, Batmunkh has neither," he said.

Batmunkh was quoted in the official Communist Party newspaper yesterday as offering to resign his remaining post of president.

The offer will be considered at a meeting of the Great People's Hural, or parliament, scheduled to meet on March 21, and is likely to be accepted, a Foreign Ministry official said.

Prime Minister Dumaagiyn Sodnom, ousted from the party's ruling politburo on Wednesday, also offered to step down from his government post, the newspaper Unen said.

# Campaign intensifies

E. German polls tomorrow

EAST BERLIN, March 16, (Reuters): East German politicians today stepped up glitzy campaigns, funded from West Germany, for Sunday's first free election in the former communist state which will set the scene for German unity.

West German leaders barnstormed across East Germany to back their political allies fighting for 400 seats in the East Berlin parliament.

The main contenders, the Social Democrats (SPD) and the three-party Conservative Alliance for Germany, intensified campaigning despite a call by the organisers for a breathing space before polling day.

With 48 hours to go until the election, in which 12.2 million people are eligible to vote, the result was far from clear. The SPD and the Alliance appeared evenly split with about 35 per cent of the vote each.

But the eventual outcome was virtually certain — unification of East and West Germany, divided since Nazi Germany's 1945 defeat in World War Two.

East Germany, whose Stalinist leaders were overthrown last October, is the first of five East European states controlled by communists for four decades to hold free elections under new democratic systems.

Hungary, Romania, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria, where old-guard communists were also ousted from power late last year, are due to vote for new leaders between this month and June.

The election commission's call for a halt to campaigning from tonight appeared in vain.

"It's to give voters a breather, to allow them to mull over the campaign," commission spokesman Wolfgang Holtsch said.

And the East German communists — certain to go into opposition after 40 years of the helm — planned a last rally in East Berlin.

The Conservative Alliance scheduled a meeting in the capital tomorrow, well after the commission's deadline.

Former West German Chancellor Willy Brandt was due to campaign in three northern cities for his Social Democrats (SPD).

Holtsch said the commission could not decree an early end to electioneering.

"It is only a recommendation and not legally binding," he said. "Of course it is not good that they are going ahead anyway, but what can we do?"

He said East German media had promised not to cover election events tomorrow.

West German parties have disregarded a vote last month by East Germany's now-disbanded round table, in which government and opposition formulated policy after last October's peaceful revolution, that no West Germans should be allowed to campaign in the elections.

West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, whose Christian Democrats back the Conservative Alliance, said in a statement that the polls were "an election for the fate of Germany."

Communist Prime Minister Hans Modrow said his party, renamed the Party of Democratic Socialism (PDS), was heading for defeat and would have to "go to a new school."

"Until now there was the unjustified claim in the constitution on who should rule society," he said, referring to a now-deleted article guaranteeing the communists' monopoly on power.

## Pastor elected 'rightist' leader

EAST BERLIN, March 15, (Reuters): East Germany's battered conservative Democratic Awakening Party elected Pastor Rainer Eppelmann as leader yesterday in an attempt to restore its credibility before Sunday's free election.

The 47-year-old former peace campaigner took over as fresh details emerged of disgraced ex-chairman Wolfgang Schnur's links with the ousted Stalinist regime's Stasi secret police.

Schnur, who collapsed last week when the allegations first emerged and is now in hospital, resigned on Wednesday and admitted he had been a Stasi informer, an accusation he had doggedly denied. The party executive voted 38-6 to expel him.

In a televised statement, Eppelmann appealed to voters not to allow "this human and political tragedy" to turn them away from Democratic Awakening, part of the three-party alliance for Germany backed by West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

"I hope and trust in the political awareness, sensitivity and understanding of the 12.5 million voters in East Germany and I hope that these events will not influence the results of the elections on March 18," he said.

The outgoing four-month-old coalition cabinet under reform communist Prime Minister Hans Modrow held its last session yesterday and said the economy had begun to stabilise despite a continuing drain of workers emigrating to West Germany.

"The most important success of this government was... to put the country on a path out of the crisis and in the direction of stabilisation," government spokesman Wolfgang Meyer said.

"It succeeded to a certain extent in making many citizens aware that it is neither in their interest nor in the interest of West German citizens to plunge head-over-heels into the adventure of unification," Meyer told a news conference.

East German television reported that Schnur, whose code name at one stage was Heuchler (German for hypocrite), was a top paid informer and had received Stasi medals and bonuses.

A spokesman for a citizens' committee in the northern port of Rostock said investigators had found 11 files about Schnur and 21 files on meetings with him or reports which he supplied.

## Idealists unhappy over reunification

LEIPZIG, East Germany, March 16, (Agencies): The idealists who helped to spark the East German revolution, opening the way to national unification, are disenchanted over what they see as a simultaneous rush to consumerism.

East Germans will vote freely on Sunday for the first time in over 50 years and are expected to give strong endorsement to calls for unity with West Germany without delay.

"This is not politics, it is pure self-interest," said Rainer Pietsch, a spokesman for an alliance of citizens' groups in Leipzig that played a major role in setting off last November's peaceful uprising against communist rule.

"People want to take over the McDonalds culture tomorrow, without thinking about it," Pietsch, a spokesman for Alliance 90, said in reference to the American fast-food chain that symbolises consumer culture the world over.

"They must know it can't be as simple as that."

Meanwhile, Hans Modrow, the communist leader of the outgoing caretaker government, acknowledged that Germany's unification was inevitable but would like to see a gradual process, said an interview published Friday.

Two days before the East German election, a survey suggested nearly half of all East Germans favour immediate unification, though a third of the electorate would prefer a slower joining of the two states.

Poland called its inclusion in German unification talks a diplomatic triumph that marked the end of the "Yalta era" but simultaneously demanded more than the limited role on border issues offered on Wednesday.

"I think the real end of Yalta took place yesterday," government spokeswoman Malgorzata Niezabitowska said in a televised statement on Thursday.

The invitation ended an era that began in 1945 with the Yalta conference at which US, Soviet and British leaders decided the post-war shape of Europe, she said.

Former West German chancellor Willy Brandt, a pioneer in seeking closer ties with the East bloc, has suggested that talks on German unification be expanded to include all of its neighbours.

## Berliners look forward to new Reich, used cars

EAST BERLIN, March 16, (Reuters): East Germans looking forward to a new government and maybe a used Golf packed the country's first car import showroom, in anticipation of the prosperity they hope Sunday's election will usher in.

With a little over 48 hours to go before East Germany's first free vote, and probably the last before union with West Germany, normally dour East Berliners buzzed with excitement.

"It's sporty, it's got power and it looks really good," said plasterer Thomas Ryll, 23, gazing longingly at a low-slung Honda CRX coupe on show at the IFA Auto Centre.

"I can't buy it now but as soon as we start getting paid in (West German) marks, well, the price looks okay."

The showroom is the first legal commercial outlet for used Western cars in a country where buyers once had a dismal choice between two basic, low-powered automobiles.

Beyond the bread-and-butter issues dominating the campaign is the rising temptation of a cars-and-cassettes lifestyle many believed rapid unification with affluent West Germany will bring.

"We were actually supposed to open at noon, but by 9 there were over 200 people waiting outside and we didn't have the heart to keep them out," said IFA manager Joachim Klare.

Klare said his team of five salesmen at the new showroom on the outskirts of the city had closed seven deals in three hours.





## INTERNATIONAL

## SA baby on mother's back shot dead

JOHANNESBURG, March 16, (Reuters): Police shot dead a black baby tied to its mother's back in one of seven killings reported in political unrest sweeping South Africa.

In a separate incident, a black policeman was arrested in strife-torn Natal province yesterday in connection with the first murder of a senior white police officer in several years.

In Katsheh township near Johannesburg, where feuding taxi operators have killed 25 people in recent weeks, desperate mothers dressed their sons as girls to save them from attacks by hired thugs.

A police bulletin on unrest in the 24

hours to last morning said the baby was shot when police clashed with a stone-throwing crowd in Ikageng township 250 km (150 miles) west of Johannesburg.

"A 15-month-old baby boy was killed after an incident in which a police vehicle was attacked by a mob of stone-throwers. A round was fired from a shotgun to disperse the mob," the report said. A black man was also killed in the incident.

Police said they found four male bodies with shotgun wounds in Ntuzuma township near the Natal port of Durban. At nearby Bobby township, they discovered the charred body of a man.

Eight people, including two policemen,

were wounded and 29 arrested around the country.

Police also reported scores of incidents of arson, stone-throwing attacks on government vehicles and buildings. They responded by firing shotguns, tear-gas and rubber bullets.

Police said a black policeman who served under the murdered Major Deon Terblanche in Natal would appear in court soon in connection with his superior's death.

Terblanche was found in his car, shot in the head, neck and shoulder, on dirt road near Hammarsdale township, one of Natal's most notorious trouble spots.

Hammarsdale is one of scores of Natal townships where more than 2,000 people have died in the past three years in battles for control between the left-wing United Democratic Front anti-apartheid coalition and the Zulu-based Inkatha Movement.

Terblanche was active in efforts to restore peace.

Thousands of panic-stricken blacks fleeing attacks by Zulu vigilantes fled their homes in townships south of Johannesburg overnight, took up arms and erected roadblocks in protest that left three dead, including a white motorist, police said today.



Abidjan is calm

Troops patrol in Abidjan, Ivory Coast after a call by anti-government protesters for demonstrations against wage cuts strike. Workers ignored the calls and the city was calm. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Army will not join Haiti govt

PORT AU-PRINCE, Haiti, March 16, (AP): The army has chosen not to participate in Haiti's provisional government, a political leader said yesterday.

Louis Roy, main author of the 1987 constitution, said that instead of an army officer, a representative of the women's movement will be appointed to the 19-member state council, which will have veto power over provisional President Ertha Pascal-Trouillot.

Mrs Pascal-Trouillot and the council are to govern Haiti until elections.

Roy said the army chose not to send an officer to the council, even though the civilian political opposition had agreed to one military representative.

"The army has decided to return to quarters and to remain there," said council member Ernest Malebranche.

Haiti has been ruled by the military since the fall of the

Duvalier family dictatorship in 1986.

The state council, with representatives from each of the country's eight provinces such as human rights, labour and civic organisations, is to be sworn today at the national palace.

Mrs Pascal-Trouillot, a supreme court judge and Haiti's first woman president, was inaugurated Tuesday, one day after deposed ruler Lt Gen Prosper Avril fled into exile in the United States.

At her inauguration, Maj Gen Herard Abraham, the army chief of staff, declared that the 6,000-member army was under her command.

Avril, who ruled Haiti for 18 months, resigned Saturday after five days of violent nationwide protests. More than 25 people had died and scores had been injured in violence before and after his resignation.

## Collor becomes Brazil President

Sweeping reforms pledged

BRASILIA, Brazil, March 16, (Agencies): Fernando Collor de Mello took the oath yesterday as Brazil's first popularly elected president in 29 years and pledged sweeping reforms to end corruption and inflation.

In a brief ceremony before a packed gallery at the white twin-domed National Congress, Collor de Mello swore to protect and defend Brazil's constitution.

"I declare empowered, from Mar 15, 1990 to Jan 1, 1995, President Fernando Collor de Mello," said senate president Nelson Carneiro. The guests applauded and sang the national anthem.

Collor de Mello, at 40 Brazil's youngest president, promised to reverse the country's unprecedented economic crisis.

He pledged to combat "corruption and prevarication, paid idlers who see the state as a source of personal or family gain."

Protection of the environment also will be a priority, Collor de Mello said, but added that industrialised countries must help.

"The military expenses of northern countries would be enough to clean the earth," Collor de Mello said.

Eighteen heads of state or government attended the ceremony, including presidents Fidel Castro of Cuba and Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua and Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez of Spain. The United States was represented by Vice President Dan Quayle.

Also in the galleries were the presidents of Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, Chile, Venezuela, Bolivia and Peru.

"My first commitment—inalterable—is to democracy," Collor de Mello said in his inaugural speech. "My election is a symbol of civil liberties."

After the ceremony, Collor de Mello rode along the esplanade of ministries to the presidential palace in a black 1953 Rolls Royce convertible, a gift from England's Queen Elizabeth II. He was accompanied by a white-uniformed Color guard on white horses.

Thousands of people lined the route, cheering and waving green-and-yellow Brazilian flags and banners saying, "a new Brazil." Collor de Mello stood and waved to the crowd, and many broke through the cordons to accompany his car.

At the presidential palace, Collor de Mello strode up the



De Mello and his wife Roseane are the new president and first lady of Brazil as they salute the public that gathered outside the Planalto Palace in Brasilia after the inauguration. (Reuters wirephoto)

white marble ramp to meet outgoing President Jose Sarney, who took the presidential sash from his shoulder and placed it on the new president.

Later, Collor de Mello was to meet visiting dignitaries.

He is the first directly elected president to take power since 1961. Between 1964 and 1985 the military ruled Brazil.

The week has brought political change to two major south American countries — on Sunday Chile's General Augusto Pinochet left office and Patricio Aylwin became president.

For the first time in South America's history all its countries are living under elected governments.

Collor beat socialist Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva in elections

last December.

The new president, who began last year's election race as a complete outsider, has already brought in some innovations which honour campaign pledges.

On Wednesday he announced the abolition of the office powerful National Information Service (SNI), Brazil's domestic and foreign intelligence agency, which was a tool of the military dictatorship. He has also halved the size of the cabinet, which will now have 12 ministers.

Collor, well aware of international concern over the future of the Amazon rainforests, reiterated his commitment to environmental protection and invited all countries to a major environmental conference which Brazil will host in 1992.

## Ozone treaty likely to help

GENEVA, March 16, (AP): An international agreement to protect the earth's ozone layer is likely to contain provisions to help Third World countries afford environmentally sound technology, a senior UN official said.

Mustapha Tolba, head of the United Nations Environment Programme, said the proposed treaty, due to be signed at a conference in June, would provide for the phase-out of chlorofluorocarbons, or CFCs, and certain other harmful substances by the year 2000.

He told reporters that even with the proposed cuts, it would take a century to repair the damage inflicted on the ozone layer by 40 years of emissions of CFCs, substances widely used in refrigerators, packaging foam and cleaning materials.

Tolba said technical and legal experts at a three-week meeting in Geneva had narrowed the differences between industrialised countries and the Third World, which has pressed for additional funds and easy access to the know-how and equipment needed to produce alternatives to the offending chemicals.

He added there was "general agreement" that financial assistance should be part of the proposed treaty and said there was a proposal for an international fund to help developing countries make the technology switch.

Tolba said the UN Environment Agency estimated that capital investment and training in the production of safer alternatives would cost Third World signatories to the Montreal Protocol at least \$140 million in the first three years of operation of the revised agreement.

If India, China and Brazil, which have increased production of CFCs and similar chemicals in their rapid industrialisation, also signed the treaty, this figure would rise to about \$260 million, he added.

He said cost increases after 1993 would be even higher as the phase-out progressed.

The agreement is due to be signed by ministers at the June conference in London. It revises and strengthens the 1987 Montreal Protocol on the protection of the ozone layer.

The 1987 protocol, signed by 55 countries, provided for a 50 per cent cut in CFC production by 1999. Concern about the increase in the size of the hole in the ozone that appears over the Arctic every year prompted governments last year to give a commitment to a more rapid phase-out.



Former White House Secretary John Poindexter and her lawyer, Plato Carabini, at the Federal Courthouse after she testified in the Iran-Contra trial. Poindexter testified under a grant of immunity from prosecution. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Poindexter erased computerised files

WASHINGTON, March 16, (AP): John Poindexter told the FBI three days after resigning his White House post that he had "no working knowledge" of early Iran arms shipments and "no direct knowledge" of the diversion of the Nicaraguan Contras, an FBI agent testified at his trial yesterday.

Agent Ellen Glasser also testified that more than 5,000 files were erased from Poindexter's computer system just before the national security adviser resigned as the Iran-Contra affair was coming to light.

Six months after the Nov 28, 1986, FBI interview at his home, Poindexter told Congress—in testimony that cannot be used at his trial—that he approved the diversion to the Contras at Oliver North's request and had been involved in a November 1985 shipment of Hawk missiles to Iran.

Glasser, in her testimony, spoke of a "massive destruction" of computer messages and provided details of the heretofore undisclosed Poindexter interview that she and another FBI agent conducted.

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The agreement is due to be signed by ministers at the June conference in London. It revises and strengthens the 1987 Montreal Protocol on the protection of the ozone layer.

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She said that during that interview Poindexter was asked whether he knew of any destruction of documents pertinent to the investigation of the Iran-Contra affair.

He replied that he did not, the agent recalled.

Concerning the diversion to the Contras, Glasser testified that Poindexter said he knew "Ollie North" was up to something.

She said she showed Poindexter copies of chronologies on the Iran initiative. The final version compiled by Robert McFarlane, Poindexter's predecessor as national security adviser, and North concealed the US role in the missile shipment.

Asked whether the documents were accurate, Poindexter replied that they were, Glasser said.

Poindexter deleted more than 5,000 computer notes from his White House files in his last week, a computer expert testified yesterday.

The deletion of these notes could add credence to prosecution charges that Poindexter helped in covering up the scandal.

Kelly Williams, who worked for the White House communications staff, testified that Poindexter's deletion of files was done in a way that would make it difficult for investigators to find them.

Poindexter

## Mandela to meet de Klerk on April 11

JOHANNESBURG, March 16, (AP): The government said today it would open unprecedented talks with Nelson Mandela and exiled African National Congress leaders on April 11.

President F.W. de Klerk's office said in a statement the President and his cabinet would meet ANC leaders to deal with "obstacles perceived to obstruct the process toward negotiations."

The talks are expected to try to set up formal negotiations on a new constitution

that would give the black majority national voting rights.

Friday's statement gave no additional details and there was no immediate comment from the ANC, the main black group fighting the white-led government.

Leaders from the ANC's exile headquarters in Zambia are expected to be part of the delegation. The organisation was banned from 1960 until last month, and many ANC leaders will be making their first trip to South Africa since heading into exile more than a quarter-century ago.

De Klerk legalized the ANC and more than 60 other anti-apartheid groups Feb 2. Nine days later he freed Mandela, who had been imprisoned for 27 years for helping to launch the ANC sabotage campaign.

Mandela was in Sweden today, wrapping up a week-long visit where he met with ANC President Oliver Tambo, who is recovering from a stroke. He was expected to return to South Africa this weekend.

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Buyer loses down payment

## Really haunted

NEW YORK, March 16, (AP): When Jeffrey Stambovsky was buying a house, he didn't check it for ghosts, a decision that could cost him more than \$30,000.

Once Stambovsky found out that the house is allegedly haunted by three 18th-century spirits, he tried to back out of the deal and recover his \$32,500 down payment. But a state judge ruled against him yesterday.

The owner, Helen Ackley, had no legal duty to tell Jeffrey Stambovsky that the house was inhabited by ghosts, said Justice Edward Leboer.

"In light of the default of the plaintiff under the contract of sale, he is not entitled to a return of his down payment," he wrote.

Now Stambovsky has a choice of losing the money or losing sleep.

Trump's Casino set to open: Coming soon to Atlantic City gambling resort: Donald Trump's triumph. Or maybe his folly.

The flamboyant billionaire's beach-front casino has enough chandeliers to turn night into day and tonnes of marble from the quarry that supplied Michelangelo. It also has Trump's signature all over it.

America's most publicised tycoon, the man whose messy marital problems dominated tabloid headlines for weeks, opens the Trump Taj Mahal casino resort in Atlantic City on April 2.

Even for him, it's grandiose.

The resort, with 1,500 guest rooms, an expensive casino and vast meeting room space, is billed as the world's largest and most elegant gambling property. (Reuters)

Bush to meet Maggie, Mitterrand: President George Bush, continuing a round of consultations with NATO allies, will meet British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on April 13 and French President Francois Mitterrand on April 19, the White House said.

Bush will meet Thatcher in the Atlantic resort island of Bermuda. The meeting with Mitterrand will be held in Florida but a site has not yet been selected.

Bush recently met West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti.

British officials said Eastern Europe and South Africa would dominate the informal discussions between Bush and Thatcher. (Reuters)

'Revolution of democracy' has won: US Vice-President Dan Quayle, returning to Washington from a week in South America, is proclaiming the "revolution of democracy has won" in the hemisphere.

Quayle said Thursday's inaugural speech by the new Brazilian President, Fernando Collor de Mello, marked "a fitting cap" to the trip, during which he daily sang the praises of democracy.

The vice-president said Collor proclaimed that his "first unwavering commitment as president of Brazil will be to democracy."

Noting that elected governments now exist throughout all of South America, he said "the revolution of democracy has won." (AP)

Amazon could soon disappear: Most of the Amazonian rain forest could disappear in 50 to 100 years if the current pace of destruction continues, and the devastation could be irreversible, a new study published on Thursday said.

"Our results show that if Amazon deforestation continues at the present rate, it will produce irreversible changes to climate that could make re-establishment of the tropical forests particularly difficult," said Jagdish Shukla, a meteorologist at the University of Maryland-College Park.

An estimated 12 per cent of the rain forest has already been destroyed and an additional 14,000 square miles (36,000 square km) is destroyed each year, the study said.

A scientific team including Shukla and Carlos Nobre, an engineer and meteorologist with the Brazilian Space Research Institute, conducted their one-year study using a newly developed mathematical model of the rain forest climate. (Reuters)

Two models, Anya Chernysheva, (left) and Irina Danilina from the Soviet Union eat a hot dog in Times Square in New York. The Soviet government has sent seven models to the US to learn how to be models. They are studying English, going to see fashion designers and taking aerobic classes. (Reuters wirephoto)

Soviet models

Two models, Anya Chernysheva, (left) and Irina Danilina from the Soviet Union eat a hot dog in Times Square in New York. The Soviet government has sent seven models to the US to learn how to be models. They are studying English, going to see fashion designers and taking aerobic classes. (Reuters wirephoto)

Mwinyi reshuffles cabinet: President Ali Hassan Mwinyi, in a major cabinet reshuffle, replaced seven ministers and abolished the Ministry of Justice Thursday.

Mwinyi, who obtained the resignation of the previous 27-member cabinet on Tuesday to allow him form a new government, announced the new appointments at a news conference in state house.

Those outappointed include Ali Noor Kassam, minister for energy and minerals in the outgoing government, and the only ethnic Asian in the previous cabinet. (AP)

## Tornadoes devastate US cities

NEW YORK, March 16, (AP): Tornadoes whirled across Texas, Arkansas and Missouri in a renewed assault of thunderstorms, the day after twisters wrecked more than 100 homes in six states.

The latest barrage of thunderstorms also dumped heavy rain that created flood threats, multiplied in Wisconsin by a dam that burst on a pond after being battered by ice.

A tornado touched down Wednesday night in the southern Arkansas town of Fordyce, injuring at least three people and causing widespread damage to a residential area, said state police Capt John Kidwell.

Two twisters in central Texas flipped mobile homes, tore off roofs and toppled utility poles Wednesday. Wind in excess of 50 miles (80 kilometres) per hour blew over trailers and highway signs and downed power lines across northern parts of the state. No injuries were reported.

In central Missouri, tornadoes damaged five businesses and buried 18-wheel trucks on top of a building.

In the southwestern corner of the state, winds gusting to 100 miles (160 kilometres) per hour blew off a high school gymnasium roof, toppled utility poles and did an estimated \$1.75 million worth of property damage, officials said.

An article in this week's Journal of the American Medical Association said the incidence of new cases has started to decline and will continue to fall to a probably low

and sometimes even to the second.

When Reagan announced his selection of Anthony Kennedy for a seat on the Supreme Court on Nov 11, 1987, she chose 25 seconds after 11:32 am EST (1632 GMT) as the moment for the announcement. "A man with a stopwatch" gave Reagan the signal for proceeding, she wrote.

She said she also delayed the timing of Reagan's first cancer operation in 1985 by three days and dictated when Mrs. Reagan's mastectomy would take place.

Ms Quigley says Reagan knew of her influence on his wife and gave her a thank-you kiss when he



Buenos Aires clash

Police clash with a group of pensioners in front of the government house in Buenos Aires. The disturbances occurred when a group of prosecutors, who demanded an adjustment in their pensions, overran the police barricades. (Reuters wirephoto)

## US Aids epidemic at peak, say researchers

CHICAGO, March 16, (Reuters): Two researchers, using a 150-year-old theory that tracks the rise and fall of epidemics, said yesterday that the AIDS outbreak peaked in the United States in 1988 and there will be relatively few new cases of the deadly disease by the end of the century.

Their conclusion was met with scepticism from other medical experts who said AIDS is spread in a way that classic epidemics were not, and the development of new drugs that stall development of the disease, or changes in infection patterns, may be responsible for any declines.

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finally met her.

Mrs Reagan, in her memoirs, "My Turn," wrote last year that while Ms Quigley was "helpful and comforting... a kind of therapist," she had influenced solely on Reagan's schedule.

"No political decision was ever made based on it," she said.

However, Ms Quigley said that before Reagan's first summit with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, she worked three hours to persuade Mrs. Reagan that her husband could trust the Soviet leader. She said she "battered her to the limit" to get Reagan's view of Gorbachev changed.





Afghan coup leader General Shah Nawaz Tanai, still wearing his general's uniform, flanked by mujahedeen inside a cave where he met journalists on Wednesday. Tanai joined forces with anti-government rebels after his coup attempt ended in failure. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Tanai denies pact with rebels

Coup hasn't failed, it is continuing

LOGAR PROVINCE, Afghanistan, March 16. (AP) Afghanistan's former defence minister said he has a tactical understanding — not an alliance — with fundamentalist rebels, and that the fight to overthrow the Soviet-backed government has nothing to do with political ideology.

Gen. Shah Nawaz Tanai, leader of the March 6 coup attempt, said that despite past differences he and the Muslim rebels share a common goal — overthrowing President Najib and his government.

"The coup has not failed. It is continuing," Tanai told a small group of reporters taken Wednesday to a rebel base in northern Logar province.

Tanai, wearing his Afghan military uniform and clutching his bat, sat cross-legged in a dimly lit, heavily guarded bunker dug into a mountainside. He talked for the first time about the mutiny and why he had teamed up with rebels of Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, the outspoken leader of Hezb-i-Islami, or Party of Islam.

"With the help of the mujahedeen, the struggle against the regime is continuing. Najib is a war monger. He claims he wants peace and national reconciliation but he continues to burn the nation in the flames of war," said Tanai, grinning and at times

twitching his walrus-like mustache.

During the nearly 12-year-old civil war, Tanai took a hard line against the mujahedeen, or Islamic holy warriors. He vigorously opposed Najib's offers to rebel commanders for military rank and autonomy in the regions they controlled if they would stop fighting.

"We accept the mistakes of the past and our coming here proves that," the 40-year-old soldier said. "We have sided with the nation and our actions should make up for these mistakes."

Our March 6, warplanes flown by mutinous soldiers bombed the Afghan capital of Kabul, killing dozens of people, injuring hundreds more and causing extensive damage.

Afghanistan yesterday asked Pakistan to extradite Tanai and 16 others who fled after their failed coup attempt last week, official Kabul Radio said.

The radio said the demand was made in a protest note handed to the Pakistani charge d'affaires in the Afghan capital Kabul. The note repeated charges of Pakistani complicity in the March 6 attempt to topple Soviet-backed Afghan President Najibullah.

# Syria willing to talk peace, says Peres

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, March 16. (AP) Vice Premier Shimon Peres told Israel's parliament yesterday that an "authoritative source" told him that Syria wants peace negotiations with Israel on demilitarising the Golan Heights.

Peres made the statement during a tense debate on a no-confidence motion by Peres' centre-left Labour Party that could oust from power Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, leader of the rival Likud Bloc.

"I want to tell all the members of the Knesset (parliament) that this morning I received information from an authori-

oritative source that the Syrians are proposing peace negotiations, demilitarising the Golan Heights," Peres said.

He gave no details about how he received the information, but his statement follows several unconfirmed reports of secret Israeli-Syrian contacts in Europe.

Syria is Israel's most implacable enemy and has always insisted on regaining the Golan Heights as part of a comprehensive settlement between Israel and all its Arab neighbours.

Israel captured the strategic heights

from Syria in the 1967 Middle East war and annexed the territory in 1981.

Peres' comment came as he questioned Shamir's commitment to peace, blaming the right-wing prime minister for setting conditions that destroy chances for opening talks with Palestinians that have been proposed by the United States.

"Is that what you want now, to enter negotiations with the Syrians before you enter agreement with the Palestinians?" Peres asked. "I tell the Knesset members that we can also open peace negotiations

with the Syrians if you are ready to discuss the Golan Heights."

The report said that Syrian President Hafez Assad had dropped his demand for a comprehensive Arab-Israeli peace for talking to Israel, the paper said.

At the time, Shamir denied there were any official contacts between Syria and Israel. "Maybe some private individuals met with Syrian representatives, but by no means someone representing the government of Israel," he said in an interview with the Hebrew daily Maariv.

## Captors threaten to stop exodus

BEIRUT, March 16. (Reuters) A pro-Israeli radical group threatened to kill three Americans held hostage in Lebanon for three years and to strike against airports, airlines and planes to halt the emigration of Soviet Jews to Israel.

"All airports, airlines, planes and offices which help in their transport will be a direct target for us," the Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine said in a statement sent to Beirut's As Nahar newspaper yesterday.

"This is a warning and a threat," the clandestine group said. "They (the hostages) will be executed if the American administration does not meet our demands."

The group, which seized academics Robert Pollitt 54, Alan Stein, 50, and Jesse Turner, 40, on Jan 24, 1987 from Beirut University college, has repeatedly demanded the release of some 400 Arabs jailed in Israel.

The two-page statement in Arabic was accompanied by a colour photograph of Stein and Pollitt. Both looked thin and bearded.

The group holds both the United States and the Soviet Union responsible for the emigration and claims the number of Soviet Jewish emigrants were more than double last year.

"We will start talking the appropriate measures to prevent the arrival of the Soviets," it warned.

It sent its warning as American hostage Terry Anderson started his sixth year in captivity today. Anderson, the 42-year-old Beirut bureau chief of the Associated Press, is being held by another group, the Islamic Jihad (holy war).

The statement denounced reports of "humanitarian moves" to free some of the 17 Western hostages held by Iranian-backed militants in Lebanon.

"We have set the trap and we are anxiously waiting for the promised American adventure to free them by force," it said.

"We urge the initiators of the moves not to interfere in this issue because we are holding agents and spies working against our people. This issue will only be solved by an exchange (of detainees)."

This was an apparent reference to Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani and Lebanon's influential Shiite cleric Sheikh Mohammed Hassan Fadlallah, who have called for the release of hostages on humanitarian grounds.

Yet another group, the Revolutionary Justice Organisation (RJO) which holds two American hostages, said last week it would only free its captives if Muslim prisoners and a Shiite cleric were released from Israeli jails.

Two French former hostages put on blindfolds today and claimed themselves to be a free man from the Iranian custody to protest the continued captivity of Terry Anderson.

Jean-Paul Kaufmann and Roger Anquet were among 10 French hostages released by their captors in Lebanon between 1986 and 1988.

The 4-year-old daughter who hostage Terry Anderson has served as a witness to a videotape message to her father today, the fifth anniversary of his capture. "I love you, daddy. Come home, please come home."

Madeline Anderson, the wife of Anderson, wrote a letter to her husband that was published today in the independent As Nahar newspaper wondering if he will see the videotape.

## China-Iran \$6b arms agreement

PARIS, March 16. (Kuna) In spite of denials by Beijing, China and Tehran did sign a \$6 billion arms deal, the weekly magazine "L'Express" claimed today.

Under that "secret" deal, Beijing will supply Tehran with the sophisticated version of the "Silkworm" anti-ship missiles, the weekly said.

New combat aircraft of the type of the Soviet-made MiG-21 and tanks were included in the Iranian "shopping list," it added.

## Jewish influx into occupied lands Arabs, Soviets damn Israel

UNITED NATIONS, March 16. (AP) The Soviet Union and Arab states yesterday condemned Israel's settlement of Soviet Jews in the occupied territories as a threat to Middle East peace and a displacement of Palestinians.

But Israel refuted its critics and said the real objective is to halt all Jewish immigration to Israel because it fortifies and perpetuates the

protested the practice, saying it changes the disputed area's demographics, increases the region's tensions and makes a Middle East peace settlement more difficult.

Palestinians living in the territories, captured by Israel from Egypt and Jordan in the 1967 Middle East war, have been protesting since December 1987 and want to create an independent state of their own on the land.

Those speaking against Israel included the Soviet Union, the Palestinian Liberation Organisation, Jordan, the Arab League, Senegal, Malaysia and Cuba.

The meeting was adjourned without a vote and will be continued at a later date because diplomats were unable to reconcile US, Soviet, Arab and other draft resolutions, all of which criticized settlements in the territories in varying degrees of harshness.

The Soviet Union said that despite pressure to halt the emigration of Soviet Jews to Israel, it could not do so, although it opposed settlement in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and occupied Jerusalem.

It said the problem was not for the Soviet Union to restrict emigration, but for Israel to prevent settlement in the territories.

Soviet ambassador Alexander Belongov, in his speech to the council, appealed to the United States and Western countries to ease their restrictions and admit more Soviet Jews so that they would not go to Israel. Most Soviet Jewish emigrants want to settle in the West, not Israel.

"One sometimes hears appeals to the Soviet Union to stop Jews leaving for Israel," Belongov said in Russian through a translator. "But we cannot possibly undertake such a step because it would be contrary to our overall course and policy of assuring all Soviet citizens equal rights and freedoms, regardless of nationality or ethnic origin."

Farek Khadoudi, head of the political department of the PLO, told the council that massive Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel was organised by "world Zionism," while millions of Palestinians remained homeless and stateless.



Former US president Jimmy Carter (left) during talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad at the Presidential Palace in Damascus on Thursday. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Carter sees hope for hostages

Assad vows to help win release

DAMASCUS, March 10. (AP) Former US President Jimmy Carter said today that chances seem better than ever for the release of foreign hostages in Lebanon and that Syrian President Hafez Al Assad repeated vows to help win their freedom.

Carter made the comments to a news conference in the Syrian capital on the fifth anniversary of the kidnapping in west Beirut of American newsmen Terry Anderson, 42, the longest-held of the 18 Westerners missing in Lebanon.

"My own conviction is that more opportunities exist now for his release than ever before," Carter said.

He spoke shortly before he left Syria for Jordan, the third leg of a tour that carried him earlier to Egypt and will later take him to Israel.

Carter said he did not know if there were any secret US dealings on the matter, but noted "there are statements being made from Tehran that to me are encouraging."

"I think now there's a growing desire on the part of the Iranian government and the US government to work out the problems between us and ... there's no doubt that Iran has influence on those holding the hostages, although not complete control."

He also said the Saudi Arabian-brokered Taif accords for peace in Lebanon were "a very constructive factor in the release of the hostages," although those agreements have met stiff resistance from several powerful factions in Lebanon.

"When it's no longer necessary for Lebanon to be fragmented, with different militia groups jealousy guarding their weapons and their prerogatives, then I think it's very likely the hostages will be released," Carter said.

The tour, sponsored by the Carter Centre of Emory University in Atlanta, is his fourth visit to the region since he left office in 1981.

Carter said he discussed the hostage issue during a meeting of several hours with Assad yesterday.

Carter said he supported the right of Soviet Jews to emigrate freely to Israel, a position at odds with that of Syria, but said he agreed with US President George Bush that they should not be allowed to settle in the occupied West Bank, Gaza Strip, Golan Heights or occupied East Jerusalem.

A hoax telephone call that led Bush to mistakenly believe Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani was ready to discuss the American hostages was traced to a government building in Tehran, the White House spokesman said Wednesday.

Press Secretary Martin Fitzwater, revealing some more details on the mysterious episode disclosed last week, also said the telephone call taken by Bush at the White House had been monitored by both Israel and Iraq.

Fitzwater, however, said US authorities still did not believe the source of the phone call, made sometime last month, was actually an Iranian official.

## Fire guts chemical plant in Libya

(Continued from Page 1)

chemical and nuclear materials." It also denounced the West German government but gave no reason.

Yesterday, 1,000 people demonstrated outside the West German embassy in Tripoli and shouted accusations of spying.

"If any company or state offered to build a chemical factory in Libya, I would sign the contract with my own hand without hesitation and I would pay a billion (dollars) ... because the world has not yet banned it," an angry Khadafi announced in a statement to the Tripoli radio.

Libya would need 20 years to make such weapons alone, he added.

Libya's Justice Secretariat (ministry) has opened an inquiry into the fire at a Libyan official said today.

An Interior Ministry official in neighbouring Tunisia said late Wednesday that Libya sealed its borders, but other Tunisian officials later denied the frontiers had been closed.

Mahmoud Azzabi, press secretary at Libya's UN mission in New York, said there was "speculation that it was possibly sabotage, somebody coming in from Tunisia."

The US ABC network quoted unidentified Libyan security sources as claiming the plant was burned to the ground by the action of US and Israeli agents. The United States and Israel denied any involvement.

Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad today deplored the fire at the Libyan chemical plant, describing the incident as directed against Libya and the Arab world.

"Despite conflicting and unconfirmed reports about this subject, and the extent of damage inflicted on the plant, the incident undoubtedly is directed against Libya and Arab world interests," Sheikh Sabah told reporters before leaving for Muscat, Oman.

In Bonn, a Foreign Ministry spokesman denied today any West German responsibility for the fire at the Libyan plant and called for a halt to threats against Germans in Libya.

Spokesman Juergen Chrobog told reporters the Bonn government protests the demonstrations in the Libyan capital of Tripoli that blockaded the West German embassy, and the failure of police to intervene.



Bank employees step out from Lebanon's Central Bank under the protection of Lebanese army troops. (Reuters wirephoto)

## Row over attack on Beirut CB governor

BEIRUT, March 16. (Reuters) A hissar row erupted in President Elias Hiriawi's government today after an attempt by police to arrest the governor of the Lebanon's Central Bank.

Official sources said Prime Minister Selim Al Hoss demanded the resignation of Interior Minister Elias Al Khazen whose bodyguards burst into a board meeting at the bank's West Beirut headquarters yesterday.

The policemen punched and manhandled the respected 72-year-old Governor, Edmond Naim, before being driven off by gunfire from security guards.

The reason was apparently that Naim, who keeps a tight grip on the national purse-strings, refused to release funds to the Interior Ministry to buy a fresh stock of blank passports, bank officials said.

Hiriawi's government, based in Muslim West Beirut, is recognised abroad but has failed to gain control of the Christian heartland where General Michel Aoun and militia leader Samir Geagea are locked in a struggle for power.

Hiriawi, Naim and Khazen are all Christians. Officials sources said Prime Minister Hoss, a Muslim, telephoned Hiriawi and said Khazen should quit the cabinet.

Hoss told Hiriawi the incident should not pass without punishment of "those responsible whoever they were," the sources said.

West Beirut branches of some 75 commercial banks closed their doors today to protest against the attack on Naim.

Naim, who rarely leaves the bank's headquarters because of assassination fears, has stood up to pressures from Muslim and Christian leaders, including the heads of the two competing governments.

## Ancient voluptuous goddess painting discovered on bottom of Egyptian coffin

ATLANTA, March 16. (AP) An unusual, 2,300-year-old painting of a voluptuous goddess has been discovered on the bottom of an Egyptian coffin after resting undiscovered in a museum case since 1920.

Workers at Emory University's museum of art and archaeology accidentally discovered the "highly unusual" well-preserved portrait, which probably dates from 525-332 BC, in January 1989.

While moving the warped, cracked coffin, Gay Robins, the museum's curator of Egyptian art, and the museum's consultant conservator stopped to examine its underside because it was feared the fragile casket made of irregular wood pieces might not withstand the move.

There they saw the painting of a goddess wearing a black wig and a long, tight, red dress held up by green straps. She is adorned with a collar, armlets,

bracelets and ankle bands. "The most exciting thing about it was the freshness of the colours," conservator Alexandra Klingelhoefer said. "The underneath, since it had been in darkness lying on its back, was very fresh-looking, brighter."

"One generally expects to find this representation inside rather than the outside or back" of a coffin, said Robert Bianchi, curator for the department of Egyptian Classics and Ancient Middle

Eastern Art at the Brooklyn Museum in Brooklyn, New York.

Explaining Egyptian funeral art, Bianchi said, "generally the goddess of the west is on the inside," serving as "a protecting spirit to keep the deceased person's spirit in contact with the west, which is the land of the dead and the land of the tombs," or the hereafter.

Perhaps the artist who painted the goddess on the coffin's underside "just wanted the body to come into contact

with the goddess," Bianchi said.

"We tend to think of partitions as something that one doesn't go through — walls or bottoms of coffins ... In ancient Egypt those kinds of material barriers didn't exist. The spirit could go back and forth without being blocked or stopped by the wall," he said.

The painting on the coffin's lid depicts a bearded man with a kneeling goddess, her wings outstretched to embrace his body.

## Velayati: Iran must have chems

GENEVA, March 16. (UPI) Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati warned yesterday that Tehran may soon have to acquire chemical weapons because of continued Iraqi production.

Velayati told the 40-nation disarmament conference, discussing chemical arms for the past 20 years, that it is urgent to complete an international ban on the weapons because of Middle East tension.

"This may well be a valid assessment in a narrow time span but history has largely been developed, shaped or affected by events in the Middle East," Velayati told the conference.

Iran faces "a complete paradox" because of Iraq and the continued absence of a peace treaty to formally end their 8-year Gulf war, he said.

Without naming Israel or other countries, he said there is also "a potential threat from some other countries in the region" which have sophisticated weapons.

"Under these conditions, we have two options," Velayati said. "One is to follow logic and reason and convert capabilities and expertise in the field of chemical weapons into practice as a deterrent against immediate and potential threats."

"The other is to follow our urge and set our hopes on a still ambiguous convention and be prepared for a possible risk or perhaps serious jeopardy to our security," he said.

## Swede held

STOCKHOLM, March 16. (Reuters) A Swedish man is detained in Iraq and might be sentenced to death, Swedish media reported today.



## KUWAIT ... GULF

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Telephone harassment**  
TELEPHONE numbers of women will not be included in the details entered in the civil identity cards issued by the Public Authority for Civil Information, according to a local daily.

The PACI has instituted this measure as a result of several complaints from citizens who alleged that they have been subjected to "undue harassment through the telephone" as a result of their telephone numbers, registered in the civil identity cards, falling into the possession of eve-teasers.

The daily in its reports commended the introduction of this pragmatic move by the PACI.

**NHA payment**

THE National Housing Authority will be forwarding a memo of recommendation to the Council of Ministers to increase the maximum limit of monthly payments extended to citizens to KD750 from the existing limit of KD700.

The recommendations are intended to benefit those citizens who have not benefitted from the recent increase in payments in relations to the maximum level permissible, officials at the NHA said.

**Teaching standard**

RIYADH, March 16, (Kuna): Deans of the education faculties of GCC Universities will meet in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) University next Sunday to discuss means of promoting the standard of teachers.

A press release by the GCC Education Office here said 28 education experts will take part in the meeting to review training methods to raise the standard of teachers.

The three day meeting will focus on working papers related to different methods of teaching and co-ordination between the universities in education and qualification of teachers.

**Maid assaulted**

THE Criminal Court sentenced a man to seven years imprisonment with hard labour to be followed by deportation for sexual assault.

The court was told that the accused sexually assaulted a maid in the early hours of the morning when she was returning from the toilet situated in the courtyard of her employer. The accused who also worked as a driver in the same house surprised the maid as she was leaving the toilet and forcibly sexually assaulted her after covering her mouth with his hand in an attempt to prevent her from screaming. However, the maid managed to rake his face with her fingernails and this was brought as evidence by the police investigating authorities.

**Out-of-court**

THE Criminal Court refrained from sentencing two male youths accused of trying to run down six youths with their vehicle in the Nagra area.

The court was told that the first accused was involved in a heated discussion with one of the victims, while the second accused intervened to stop the argument.

However, the other five victims attacked the first and second accused, which caused the first and second convicted together to ram the six with their car.

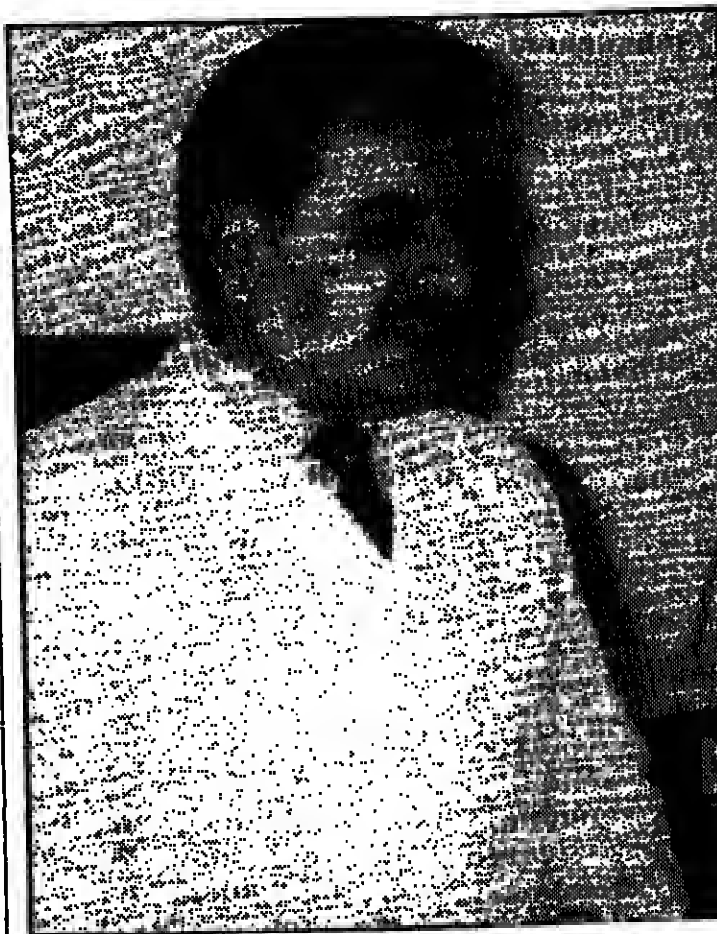
In court, the parents of all the youths agreed to settle the matter out-of-court and the authorities agreed to this settlement.

**Neo-Muslim**

A NEWS release from the Fatwa Office at the Ministry of Awaqaf and Islamic Affairs says that Bhagrat Jaiman, an Indian national working as a maid in Kuwait has embraced Islam. She has changed her name to Fatima. She went to the ministry offices and declared her intention to become a Muslim. The lady was born in 1935 and holds Indian passport No. 539686.

# Iraqi doctor discovers new medicine for cancer

## Success claims: 3,000 patients on waiting list



Dr Sari: discovery

By Mufeed Zaid Al Kielani

DR ABDUL Razzaq Hasan, an education professor had given up all hope of ever being cured from his disease and suffering after having visited specialists all over the world for the past 15 years. His trauma had reached such an advanced stage that he even contemplated committing suicide, but his strong faith prevented that and gave him strength.

After his last medical visit abroad in June 1989, Hasan returned to Baghdad and decided to wait for his destiny. A chance meeting with one of his old friends led him to the clinic of an Iraqi doctor, Meshal Hamed Al Sari.

Sari thoroughly studied all the medical reports that Hasan had been given by specialists throughout the past 15 years and issued by famous British physicians on the white blisters diseases and assured him that he would do his best to see that he was cured.

Hasan's treatment began on Dec 17, 1989 and only after a week he began to feel much better. His pains diminished day by day and after a month of treatment, he was fully recovered and is now back to normal.

Dr Sari graduated from the College of Medicine in 1967 and then joined the Military College where he continued his education by specialising in protective

works on the issues of war viruses and some other specialties in immunology of the human body.

During his exhaustive studies and researches, Sari said that he made vital discoveries, the most important being the theories related to the treatment of cancer. He commented that these findings are based on accurate research findings attributed to determining the main causative factors leading to cancer and which are totally different from other forms of virus infections.

He went on to explain that in most cancerous cases, genes entering the host body genes, merge with body cells to form new cells having totally different characteristics than normal cells. Therefore, Sari said that he addressed the method of treatment by mainly concentrating on the methods to prevent the affect of these genes within the human body.

Sari added that he concentrated on finding a final preparation and that he prepares these medicines without any assistance and also ensures that the patient receives the appropriate dose which will lead to full recovery.

He commented that due to the large number of patients now on his waiting list, he has discontinued admitting any new patients. However, he said that he feels pained to reject patients. This is due to several reasons, primarily the limited

capabilities of manufacturing the medicine. He commented that he is seeking suitable opportunities to manufacture the medicine on a large scale.

Commenting on the general practice of internationally announcing his invention and marketing it, Dr Sari said that before marketing any medicine in the world, it has to go through many tests and laboratory examinations on animals. Different laboratory animals are given three kinds of doses from the newly invented medicine. These are the therapeutic dose, the pharmacological dose and the lethal dose.

All these types of doses have been fully tested on laboratory animals with the use of his prescription and he is currently administering these doses on volunteers — both patients and healthy individuals.

Treatment of patients began on these basis and in accordance with international scientific and medical restrictions. He added that his medicine has proven to guarantee cure in many cases when applied on a case by case basis. Sari stated that he, his wife and children were the first volunteers to try the doses and that he has treated many early and advanced cases of cancer and all recovered — thanks to the assistance of Allah, he added.

Speaking of the methodology, Sari stated that his invention isolated the cancerous cells in the body so the body can resume its normal unimpaired functions.

On the issue of finding a treatment for Aids, the inventor said that he has as yet not had a chance to test his medicine, but expressed the belief that with some minor alterations on the present invention, it could be an effective cure for Aids. However, he said that his priorities are to attend to the nearly 3,000 patients who are already on his cancer patient waiting list.

The doctor went on to disclose that the newly invented treatment will obviate the need for amputation of female breasts and other individual organs and will also not need any radioactive treatment.

Ateya Abdul Fatah from Jordan said that he was admitted to the hospital in Amman after having being diagnosed as having developed cancerous indications and was advised to seek treatment abroad.

A friend informed him of Dr Sari in Baghdad and after lengthy consultations was admitted on Jan 7, 1990. Only a week after beginning treatment he was on his way to recovery and after a month he was completely back to normal.

Another patient, Kathemiya Rosh Eidan a 56 year old female was told that her breast cancer had developed to such an extent that it was not possible to operate and sent home to await her fate. However, she was recommended to Dr Sari in Baghdad and after three months of treatment she felt quite normal and is back home having resumed her normal life.

## Fire worship rites

Influence of maids

ECONOMICS, changing of social customs and parting with traditional values have individually and collectively played a major role in the near "total dependence of housemaids."

In this changing social structure, both parents being at work, make it mandatory that they provide a maid to look after the children, do the housework and keep an eye on the family affairs.

The problems besetting families who depend exclusively on maids have been replete in society. In the recent past, frequent cases have been reported where maids have been found guilty of thefts from the house, adultery with the owners sons, and in some extreme cases arson in revenge for ill-treatment by the employer.

However, another dimension has been added to these problems — this is in the realm of housemaids acting as surrogate mothers and housewives.

In one such episode, a father noticed that his children, a young boy and girl, would perform strange gestures everytime he lit a cigarette. He also began to notice that the children spent most of the time in the kitchen with the maid whom he had recently hired.

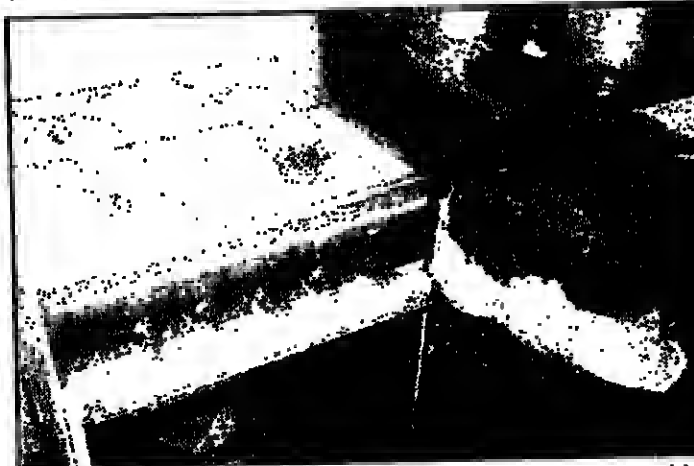
During conversation with a close friend, the father narrated his "dilemma" and said that he could not give any plausible account of what was actually happening at home with the children during the absence of his wife and himself.

The friend suggested that he hide a video-camera in the kitchen to record events when he and his wife were at work. Great was the surprise of the father when he watched a play-back of the video tape after one such absence at work. He discovered that the seemingly simple gestures that his children performed when he lit a cigarette related to a form of fire-worship rituals taught them by the maid.

The scenes recorded by the hidden camera revealed the maid lighting in the electric cooker and kneeling down in a form of worship, she was uttering some form of religious mumbo-jumbo and the children were doing the same.

The Muslim father, unable to believe his eyes would not allow any act of blasphemy under his roof and wanted to get rid of the maid immediately. However, his wife asked that he not hrow matters out of proportion and to calm down. In a rage, he flung an ash tray at his wife and this has led to "estranged relations" between these two otherwise normal parents.

It is really a very high price to pay when a family encounters practices of maids in their houses which are completely alien to traditional values of Kuwait.



A child performing a ritual he allegedly picked up from a maid.

By Diana Abou Haidar  
Arab Times staff

INDIGENOUS programmes for organ donation and transplantation have become a necessity, especially now when developed countries have started to refuse performing such operations on non-nationals and some poor developing countries have turned it into a trade replete with medical dangers, said Dr Nael Al Naqeeb, undersecretary of the Ministry of Public Health.

Naqeeb was speaking at a public debate on problems and solutions of organ donation and transplantation held Wednesday evening at the Regency Palace. Speakers from Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, who participated in the 2nd International Congress for Organ Transplantation, addressed a number of issues such as lack of donors, concept of brain death, organ donation in Islam and the Saudi experience.

"The number of kidney failure cases in Kuwait is estimated at 120 annually. These patients have two alternatives to stay alive: dialysis or transplanting a kidney from a cadaver or a living donor," said Dr George Abouma, head of Organ Transplantation Department at Kuwait University's Faculty of Medicine.

He added that transplantation is the better alternative because it provides the patient with longer and more normal life. Transplantation is also less costly. "The cost of dialysis for four years is estimated at KD32,000, while transplantation of a kidney plus medical care for four years costs about KD9,000. This simply means saving KD23,000 per patient in four years," stated Abouma concluding that KD5.5 million could be saved on the 240 patients who are receiving dialysis treatment in Kuwait at present.

"Other than kidney transplants, there is need for transplantation of 60 pancreases, and 30 hearts," said Abouma.

In spite of the fact that since its inception in 1979, the organ trans-

## Donors unaware of concepts; conference concludes

## Doctors condemn sale of human organs



Dr Nael Al Naqeeb

plantation programme in Kuwait has completed 501 kidney transplant procedures, it still faces a number of severe problems, he added.

"We have a very big number of patients who need kidney, heart or pancreas transplantation, yet the number of relatives willing to donate the organs is small and organs from cadavers are not available. The thing that pushed a number of desperate patients to go to other countries such as India, the Philippines or some Arab countries to buy the needed organs."

Abouma explained that such behaviour is against the Kuwaiti law, religious and medical ethics. It also subjects the patient to medical and psychological complications. "The rate of success is usually lower, and in addition to many operative complications, such operations might lead to serious diseases such as hepatitis

B, malaria and Aids." "Unless we manage to overcome these problems, we won't be able to make good use of our up-to-date facility for organ transplantation at Ibn Sina Hospital," claimed Abouma.

**Concept**  
Dr Mahmoud Samhan, also of the Faculty of Medicine said that the problem of organ availability is largely due to the public's misunderstanding of Islam's point of view on organ donation, in addition to the doctors' refusal of the concept of brain death and the absence of an institution specialised in obtaining needed organs.

"We need to convince doctors of the necessity of reporting all deaths to the Organ Transplantation Centre so that the centre could take action towards obtaining permission from the family of the deceased. We also need to amend our laws and con-

sider the law of presumed consent which gives the authorities the right to a dead person's organs unless he/she has specified otherwise in a will.

Another reason for the lack of organs is the unacceptance of the concept of brain death not only among the public but also among doctors.

"Brain death is one of the negative results of medical progress. Medical equipment managed to extend the period between the death of the brain and that of the heart from four minutes to four or five days," said Dr Raed Shaker, associate professor at the Faculty of Medicine.

He explained that a person is not legally dead unless his/her brainstem is dead. "There has been no brainstem death that has not resulted in cardiac death. A person's death certificate is prepared when his brainstem dies even if his heart is still beating."

"We have all seen a chicken running for a couple of metres with its head cut off. The chicken is dead because its brain is dead although its heart still beats for a short while," Shaker said.

He added that it is extremely important for the public as well as people in the medical profession to understand and accept brain death so that we could make use of the still-beating hearts to give life to a heart patient doomed for death.

"Brain death has been endorsed and equated with cardiac death at the third conference of the International Islamic Jurists held in Amman in 1986," asserted Dr Mohammed Al Bar, of Saudi Arabia.

"Islamic jurists have sanctioned transplantations of teeth and bones carried by Muslim surgeons since one millennium. In the twentieth century many Fatwas (Decrees) sanctioning organ transplantation were passed by eminent Islamic jurists."

Dr Saleh Al Aswad, manager of the National Kidney Foundation in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, said that 357 cases of brain death were reported to the centre from

1986 to end of 1989. "The foundation succeeded in harvesting organs from 82 of these cases that were reported from 47 hospitals around the kingdom." The foundation owes its success to a computer network that connects Saudi hospitals with the foundation and an emergency team with a chopper at its command.

"But we still face a lot of social problems that prevent people from donating organs from the bodies of their deceased for no apparent reason," concluded Aswad.

## ISP exam centre shifted

THE Centre Superintendent of an embassy official, has unilaterally changed the venue for the practical examinations for the students of International School of Pakistan (ISP), according to a press release issued by the school's principal, Tasleem Akbar.

The Controller of Examinations, Federal Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, Islamabad, had allotted the Pakistan School, Rumelthiya, as the centre to conduct the theory and practical examinations for the ISP students.

The statement says that students, parents and teachers are in a "state of despair and disturbed by the situation" by the change in venue.

"No reasons have been given by the Centre Superintendent for changing the venue," it added.

The statement claims ISP students have been "tortured by the placement of a 'private candidate' sign in front of their names during examinations" while the matter of affiliation is sub-judice.

It urges the ambassador of Pakistan to intervene immediately and restore the original Centre of Examinations for the ISP students.

## Seminar on unruly behaviour at school

## Concerted efforts needed

ALANWAR private school organised a seminar on the role of addressing the informative and educational concepts in eradicating violence and unruly behaviour in schools.

Dr Rasheed Al Hamad, assistant undersecretary of the Ministry of Education for Planning and Development, speaking at the seminar said that this form of uncivilised behaviour at schools is a fairly recent development and steps should be taken to curb it in its infancy to ensure that it does not lead to criminal acts.

Specifically citing pupils at the secondary schools, the official said that they are teenagers and during these formative years, they are subject to physiological, physical and social changes that are manifested in their character and behaviour.

The official went on to state that pupils at this stage of life are prone to suffer from intellectual disturbances, tensions and unpredictable moods. He recommended that educationalists take careful cognisance of these factors when considering behavioural patterns and give adequate consideration to the natural aspects of the students stage of life. Educationalists should undertake comprehensive studies on the needs of youths and different circumstances that play a vital role in their behaviours, so that they are ideally placed to impart practical advice and guidance. Further, the official said that these educationalists should understand the difference in the cultural gaps that have of late manifested themselves on the Kuwaiti society and have contributed to complicating the material and psychological ties in society giving rise in these complications among youths.

Elucidating on the issue of contradictions, the

official commented that acquired religious values at times contradict practices in life and this causes a conflict between traditions of the older generation and upcoming youth, which in turn lead to some forms of violence.

Such acts of violence by youths have been manifested in violating the code of school conduct, disregard for school uniforms, resorting to cheating at exams, disrespect and arrogance to school authorities and teachers and in some extreme cases physical assault on the administration and the teaching staff.

He said that these problems cannot be overcome without the dedicated co-operation and active participation of family members, school authorities, local media and officials of the state. He underscored the fact that each of these bodies can play a vital role in solving the problem and added that any drawbacks in the educational curriculum will have negative effects on pupils.

Specifically, he said that family problems can have a devastating effect on the behaviour and personality of teenage pupils. The family is the vital element in developing and moulding the character of youths, the official said.

Also speaking at the seminar, Bader Al Mudal, director of programmes department at KTV, also speaking at the seminar, confirmed that youths are particularly prone to the effects of the media such as TV broadcasts, radio and publications, including public libraries. All these instruments coupled with the family upbringing all contribute vitally towards shaping and forming the character and behaviour of youths, the official said.



## Shield of Honour

Director-General of the General Traffic Department Brigadier Abdul Hameed Al Hajji received at his office on Thursday the chairman of the Kuwait Journalists Society Ahmad Yusuf Behbehani, the society's secretary Ahmad Shams Eden, the society's treasurer Adnan Al Rashid and others. Discussion centred on the extensive efforts of the GTD to solve the existing traffic problem and the positive interviews held with editors-in-chief of local press during the GCC Traffic Week. Behbehani presented the Society's Shield of Honour to Brigadier Al Hajji in appreciation of his distinguished efforts sort out existing traffic problem.

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## Action Line

**I AM a Sri Lankan. I want to bring my daughter to Kuwait on a work permit. My daughter is 20-years-old. My husband and I have been living in Kuwait for the past 15 years. My husband works in a ministry. I hope I stand a chance to bring my daughter to Kuwait on a work permit.**

**THE salary you have indicated is not sufficient under the rules to sponsor the family, including children. In the public sector, a father must earn at least KD450 to sponsor his daughter. Probably, you are aware of these rules.**

**If you want to bring her on a work permit, it is necessary to find a job for her in a private concern. If she is selected for employment, the employer would do the needful and provide an entry permit. The only way is to look for a job for her, and if successful, call her on a work permit.**

**I AM a bachelor and have recently moved. Is it necessary to inform PACI of the change in address? Is it also necessary to change the address on my Civil ID card every time I move?**

**IT IS absolutely necessary to inform PACI. The procedure is simple. You have to fill in the PACI form available from one of the co-operatives and submit it. The new Civil ID card will be ready within a month.**

**The aim of PACI is to keep records. If the necessary change is not made when you change your address, there might be problems in the future when the new occupant of the previous residence makes a claim of residing there. Also, the rules stipulate that you must inform PACI of any change of address or employment.**

**I HAVE been living in Kuwait for the last 35 years. My residence expired in 1988. My sponsor is willing to renew my residence but the ministry has rejected on the basis of old age. I have no one to turn to in India. My wife has expired. All my relatives are willing to help. Please suggest what I can do to renew my residence or leave this country without facing any problems.**

**IT is an offence to live in Kuwait without a valid residence. Do you have any sons living and working in Kuwait? If you have, you could ask them to sponsor you on the basis of your long stay in the country. It is a long shot but worth a try. If you want to leave the country, you'll have to pay the fine for overstaying without renewing your residence. The overstay fine is fixed by the Ministry of Interior. After paying the fine, the ministry will issue an exit permit, giving you between a 10 days to a month to leave the country. This seems to be the logical action that you could take. However, if you can't pay the fine, then there may be some problems, like deportation.**

**WHERE do you recommend we expatriates can have access to the latest edition of Kuwaiti labour law with amendments?**

**TRANSLATED copies of the labour law are available in book form and sold at bookshops around Kuwait. One of the most accurate translations is by M.A. Mursi, a certified translator, of the Al-Nama International Translation Services. Translated copies of various laws cost between KD15 to KD25.**

## 'I am treated like a piece of furniture'

### Asian maids say employers have no mercy

THE pros and cons of the influx of an ever-increasing number of maids from a cross-section of cultures, religions and educational levels has been the topic of discussion at both the government and citizens level.

To address the intrinsic element, a local daily conducted a survey among a section of these maids.

The general consensus among a number of Asian maids working for employers who do not have any mercy and who do not believe in the simple norms of human dignity said that all they ask for is to be treated as "human beings". They added that they have left their homelands and their families, including children to come to Kuwait to earn a decent living by giving hard and honest work in return.

Balarita, a Filipino maid said that she

had been continually working for two years at a Kuwait household, but was never treated as a human being, was deprived of her basic rights and made to toil ceaselessly. Her employer's wife used to scream at her and after having been deprived of going on her earned leave, she decided that she could not bear this inhuman behaviour and opted to leave to work for another household. She said that she is going through a nightmare trying to obtain her release and her peace of mind is completely shattered.

Polita, also a Filipino, said that she worked as a maid at five different households over an extended period of time. Though I worked hard, my employer generally was never satisfied, she said. She added that it becomes very difficult to work from the early hours of the morning till late at night and then have to sleep with

the children in the night. Caring for the little ones in the night, leaves me completely exhausted in the morning, she said adding that it becomes physically impossible to continue the next day's work. Over an extended period such work, it has effected my health negatively to a considerable extent, she said.

Polita said that, unfortunately, because of the sad plight of her own family back home, she continues to work so that she can send back some money for their needs. However, she said that it is taking quite a toll on her physical health. Her present employer is quite moody and often tends to swear at her in front of the children. Consequently, the children have adopted the same mannerisms of their mother and continually swear and pick on her. She said that she is treated as a piece of furniture.

She indicated that after having borne this "way of life" for quite some time, she became completely depressed and in that state of mind, candidly informed her employer that it was not important for her whether she was liked or not, but what she asked for was to be treated as a human being and that her salary should be paid along with her other normal benefits. She said that instead of there being any positive outcome, the scene became even worse and in desperation she had to leave the employer.

Fortunately, she said that her present employer is extremely understanding and absolutely civilised. She is treated very well, working hours are regulated, payments given on time and she feels really happy working for this family and hopes that her health will permit her to repay the family with hard and honest work.

## Students misuse narcotics

SECURITY forces have apprehended 173 smuggling cases and arrested 312 persons accused of trading and consuming narcotics last year, according to the director of anti-narcotics and liquor department at the Ministry of Interior, Col Abdullah Al Farhan.

The official said that his department seized 12,154 grammes of heroin; 68,757 grammes of hashish; 536 grammes of opium; 2,067 grammes of marijuana and 788,111 narcotics pills last year.

Farhan said that his department, contrary to rumours, has not prosecuted any school student for either possession or consumption of narcotics. However, he admitted that some pupils have been known to misuse narcotic pills given to them under medical prescription.



Training

The Deputy Director General of the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (Paaet) Humoud Al Mudhaf showed distributing certificates to graduates of the Public Relations training course organised by the authority for a number of employees of the Ministry of Public Health. Speaking at the function, the official said that the training sector strives to cover a part of the training requirements of the state and that functional training is inevitable for each employee to keep abreast with the administrative development adopted by the state. A total of 19 employees participated in the nine day training course.

## Jewish settlement

### Conspiracy condemned

THE head of the Information Committee at the Graduates Society Saud Al Anzi condemned the Soviet Jews immigration to occupied Palestine and described it as the most unjust crime in the history of mankind.

He said that this conspiracy is against the Palestinian people and comes as a violation of human rights.

Al Anzi who also is co-ordinator at the Arab Committee for Solidarity with the Intifada said at a press conference Thursday that the committee will organise a charitable market for the support of the intifada inside the occupied lands.

## Peace

Al Anzi added that the charitable market is being held for the first time at the Girls Club on April 10.

The market will display its goods for three days which include house-ware, food section, sweets, childrens toys, Chinese paintings and hand-made products.

Meanwhile, the Yemen Arab Republic's Foreign Minister

Abdel-Kareem Al Eriani has said that the United States must have a more effective role in pushing the peace process in the Middle East and stop migration of Jews to the occupied Arab lands.

Al Eriani, in an interview with Kuwaiti magazine Al Yaqatha, to be published on Saturday, clarified that despite the importance of the United States' role in peace process in the Middle East, the Soviet Union and European countries' contribution to building peace in the region is not of less significance.

On the Red Sea security, political unrest and military escalation in the horn of Africa, Al Eriani stressed that protecting this strategic waterway is the responsibility of littoral countries, noting that the unified Yemen will continue consulting and co-ordinating with all its neighbours in this connection.

## WHO urged to help Palestinians

CAIRO, March 16. Arab health ministers at the end of their 15th session Thursday, called on the World Health Organisation (WHO) to promote health conditions of Palestinians in the occupied lands in co-ordination with the Palestinian Red Crescent.

The council decided to entrust the head of the executive bureau of the Arab Health Ministers and President of the Palestinian Red Crescent to carry out contacts with the director of WHO concerning the demand made by the PLO to join the international organization.

The health ministers also decided to train fresh Palestinian graduates working in occupied lands.

A sum of \$150,000 set annually by the Arab Health Development Fund will be transferred to the Palestinian Red Crescent to handle health affairs for Palestinians and cover expenditures of doctors working in the occupied territories.

The council stressed the need to provide financial and moral support for the Palestinian Red Crescent to help it in fulfilling its complete role.

The council assigned the Arab Health Development Fund to transfer \$275,000 for the treatment of Palestinians in the occupied lands in hospitals that do not belong to the Jordanian Ministry of Health and to support the St James Hospital in Jerusalem.

\$210,000 were earmarked for the support of the intifada. \$525,000 for health care in Lebanon, in addition to \$500,000 to help Sudan boost health services.

The council called on the Arab Health Development Fund to provide assistance in any Arab country that is exposed to any kind of catastrophe.



A scene from Anthony's Chance.

## Czech Film Week

## Fantasy with real value

By Jadranka Porter

Arab Times staff SOME of the latest productions from one of the world's oldest schools of cinematography will be on view in Kuwait next week when the Kuwait Cine Club launches a Czechoslovak Film Week.

More than a dozen short animated films and feature movies will be screened at the Chamber of Commerce auditorium from Tuesday.

The festival will show the Czechoslovakian film industry's technical superiority and thematic variety. The organisers say it will appeal to young as well as adult audiences.

This will be one of the rare occasions to peep into the Czechoslovak movie industry talent through short animated movies that couple fantasy with real life values thus being both entertaining and instructive. These will be followed by feature films that address everyday problems of Czechoslovaks focusing on man - woman relationships. The value of these movies is that they transcend the boundaries of Czechoslovakia and through treatment of individual life histories deal with themes that have a universal appeal.

Teen-age love, so often a film-maker's inspiration, is dealt with a movie titled *Junior Commuters*. In it young Vojta tries to win the affection of his

classmate Kajka. She becomes a friend which is less than Vojta has hoped for. But although he lost a big love he is not a total loser. For the experience has gradually begun turning the boy into a man. Perhaps it is not a coincidence that it was his grandfather, and not his father or mother, who sympathises with Vojta and helps him set out on a trip of self-discovery.

Family ties are examined in another movie depicting the relationship between two brothers, a reckless and destructive Dan and level-headed and decent Boza. The film, *A House For Two*, ends in tragedy, where the good guy is a victim and the bad guy is left to spend the rest of his life burdened with guilt and remorse.

*Anthony's Chance* is a movie about a depressed man who seeks happiness through a relationship with a young and attractive woman. It sheds light on the hidden corners of a tormented mind that cannot shake off the past.

Other movies show the same kind of introspection and depth, a hallmark of Czechoslovak films that earned them international recognition, including an Oscar for Jiri Menzel's *Closely Watched Trains*. Czechoslovakia itself hosts one of the famous international film festivals held biennially at the Bohemian spa of Karlovy Vary.

## Rental week concludes

THE Kuwait Dental Association concluded its 11th week on mouth and teeth health here Thursday.

Head of the organising committee Dr Fatima Al Zaabi said that the week witnessed an unexpected attendance from the public.

Dr Al Zaabi told Kuna that the week was initiated by the Dental Association in order to preserve public health.

The week held under the title "Health of the month" featured suggestions and advices for individual's dental care for everyone from pregnancy till the elderly, Dr Zaabi said.

The head of the organising committee explained that the week consisted of an exhibition to which all dental health departments had contributed under the supervision of specialised dentists.

## Issa sessions

### Social security trends

KUWAIT, March 16, (Kuna): The 10th regional training course for Asia and the Pacific on social security continued its sessions here Wednesday.

The session was attended by 80 trainees and lectures from various Asian and Pacific countries and dealt with papers presented by delegates of Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Sudan, Turkey, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

The International Social Security Association (Issa) regional office director Har Mander Singh delivered a lecture on trends and problems of social security in developing countries in Asia and the Pacific.

Singh's research dealt with the origins, patterns, development of social security in 28 Asian and Pacific countries, and highlighted the administrative, technical and financial matter which concern the social security schemes of these countries.

He noted that the purpose of his research is to describe and analyse the social security in the concerned countries.

He also stressed the fact that social protection is an instrument for social progress.

The Issa course in collaboration with Kuwait Public Institution for Social Security, is the first of its kind in the area and will last till next Wednesday.

## Sabah for Namibia

KUWAIT'S Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Jaber will head for Namibia to take part in the celebrations of Namibia's independence and inauguration ceremony of Namibia's President Sam Nujoma, Kuna learnt Friday.

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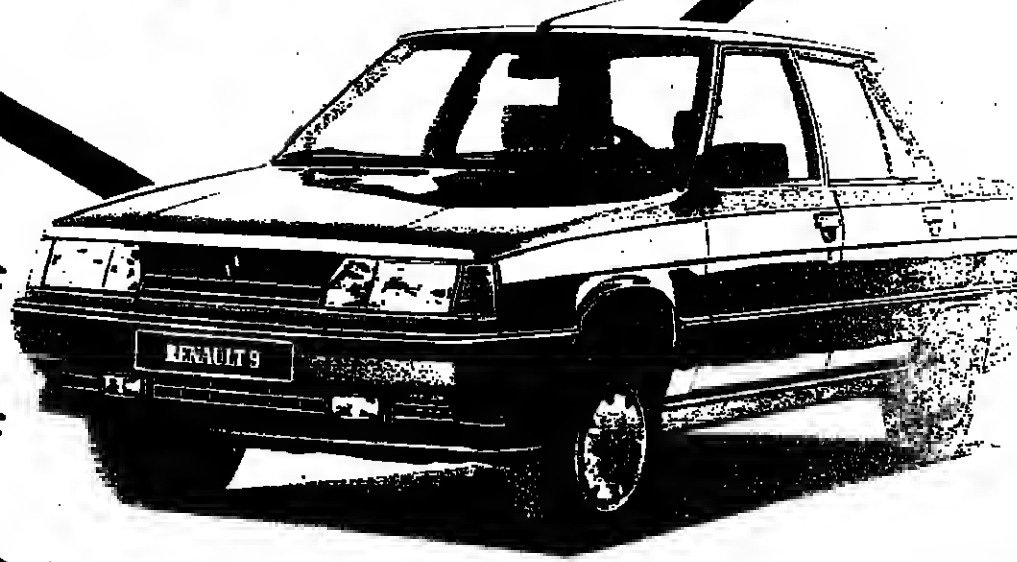
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## EDITORIALS

## ARAB TIMES

## Thought for today

THERE is nothing wrong with Ireland except that it is Irish, and there is nothing wrong with England except that it is not Irish — George Bernard Shaw, Irish-born writer (1856-1950).

## Response to E.bloc reforms

## Shunning costly weapon systems

BRUSSELS, (AP): Nato members are responding to Eastern Europe's political revolution by trimming their military budgets and turning away from expensive joint weapons programmes.

Defence Minister Guy Coe of Belgium rang Nato's alarm bells recently by saying his country might withdraw its soldiers from West Germany even before East-West agreement on reducing conventional forces.

Considering the startling changes in the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact, he asked, "how can we justify the status quo on our side?"

If West Germany drops out of the European fighter aircraft project because of domestic opposition, which is possible, the programme probably would be doomed.

Jürgen Möllemann, the West German education minister, said the fighter "will be the safest aircraft in the history of the military because it will never fly, and therefore will not crash."

Relus Ter Beek, defence minister of the Netherlands, said: "A reconsideration of the security situation in Europe is now necessary."

There is a new feeling among Western allies that they can pare their budgets, drop out of co-operative programmes and bring their soldiers home from West Germany.

## Spending

"To all likelihood ... spending will wither on the vine as much as governments feel they dare," said John Cross, deputy director of the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London.

Even the United States has abandoned big increases in spending. Pentagon officials now feel able to talk about shutting down military bases, withdrawing soldiers from West Germany and dropping weapons programmes.

Other North Atlantic Treaty Organisation members are anxious to do the same, but some caution against moving too quickly.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of Britain says the Soviet Union will have "vast military capabilities" even after promised force reductions.

Denmark's Defence Minister, Gen. Joergen Lyng, finds "developments in Eastern Europe ... so fluid that the situation can change rapidly."

Governments are under pressure to economise, however, and Sonath Sen of Stockholm International Peace Research Institute estimates military spending by the 16 Nato members will decline 2.7 per cent this year from about \$450 billion. He said it was off 1.1 per cent last year, adjusted for inflation.

The United States, which accounts for about two-thirds of the total, probably will reduce spending by 3 per cent this year, Sen said, and European expenditures could decline slightly more than 2 per cent.

"It will be difficult for defence ministers to ask for more" in the new political climate, Sen predicted.

Officials say few members will meet Nato's guideline of a 3 per cent growth in spending this year. The target has been in effect since the 1970s, and the alliance's defence ministers probably will abolish it soon.

Some countries may keep spending up because of regional problems. Greece and Turkey, for instance, were enemies long before they were Nato allies.

Greece has exceeded the United States in the share of its economic output devoted to defence. Last year, it spent 6 per cent of its gross national product on the military, the highest in Nato and greater than the 5.5 per cent spent by the Americans, according to alliance estimates.

Turkey, one of only two Nato members bordering the Soviet Union, also worries about neighbours Syria, Iraq and Iran. Its military, now undergoing modernisation, gets about a one-quarter of the national budget.

Norway, the other Nato nation with a Soviet frontier, has drafted plans to increase military expenditure by 2.5 per cent this year.

Analysts say West Germany will be under great pressure to cut defence spending so its powerful economy can help East Germany. Bonn talks of reducing its army from 480,000 to 400,000 in the 1990s and has suspended a plan to increase the conscription term from 15 months to 18.

## Target

Military hardware is a major target of budget cutters because of negotiations in Vienna on reducing conventional forces in Europe, which are expected to produce an agreement this year.

"Countries will for the first time be looking at actually reducing the numbers of equipment they require ... It's a new environment for force planners," said Simon Lunn, deputy secretary-general of the North Atlantic Assembly, made up of legislators from Nato nations.

Arms negotiators, for example, want to limit each side to 20,000 main battle tanks, long the dominant weapon in land combat.

For the "thinned-out battlefield" of the future, governments may place more emphasis on sophisticated mobile weapons, analysts say.

Nato members have begun pulling out of costly joint arms programme set up years ago to produce modern weapons that could be shared.

"Today, as defence budgets shrink, we see co-operative programmes running into severe difficulties," William H. Taft IV, the US ambassador to Nato, said in a recent speech.

A senior alliance official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said: "We're in this indecisive period now ... where to rush in to create new programmes is probably not wise. That's why all these countries are sort of retrenching on the programme."

An eight-nation plan to develop the warship of the 1990s has collapsed. Britain, France and Italy withdrew last fall, followed in quick succession by Germany, Spain and the Netherlands, leaving only Canada and the United States. Britain and the United States have turned their backs on plans to build a weapon fighter planes could fire from a distance, without flying over enemy territory. France and Canada got out earlier.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1526 — France's King Francis I is released from Spanish captivity.
- 1649 — England's Parliament abolishes House of Lords.
- 1658 — Royalist conspiracy is discovered in England.
- 1776 — American revolutionaries force British to evacuate Boston, Massachusetts.
- 1813 — Prussia's Frederick William III declares war on France.
- 1848 — Revolution under Daniele Manin begins in Venice, Italy.
- 1860 — Second Maori war breaks out in New Zealand.
- 1888 — Britain establishes protectorate over Sarawak on Borneo.
- 1921 — Poland's constitution is established.
- 1948 — Britain, France, Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg sign Brussels Treaty for 30-year alliance against armed attack in Europe, and economic, social and military cooperation.
- 1962 — Soviet Union accuses United States of fighting "undeclared war" in Vietnam and demands removal of American military forces there.
- 1973 — Cambodian Air Force officer steals plane and bombs presidential palace in Phnom Penh, missing president Lon Nol but killing at least 20 people.
- 1977 — Angolan troops invading Zaire take important copper mining centre of Kolwezi.
- 1988 — Israeli Army opens misconduct trials against four soldiers accused of brutality during Arab uprising.
- 1989 — At least two people are killed when mediaeval tower collapses in northern Italian city of Pavia.

## A charmer desperate for a scoop

Lacked what it takes to be a spy

LONDON, (AP): Farzad Bazoft, the London-based journalist executed Thursday in Iraq, was a handsome, outgoing Iranian exile remembered by colleagues as desperate for a scoop but lacking the guile for a spy.

"It is ridiculous to suggest he could have been a spy," said Tim Walker, a fellow journalist on the Observer newspaper, a liberal London weekly. "He didn't have the guile for it. He was disastrous at office politics ... he just wasn't a devious man."

Bazoft, the eldest of four children of a National Iranian Oil Company executive, came to Britain in 1975 as a 16-year-old to complete his education at a technical college near Oxford.

He was still a student when Ayatollah Khomeini's fundamentalist regime ousted the Shah of Iran in 1978.

## Freelance

He never returned home. As a freelance journalist, he wrote for dissident Iranian publications, and colleagues said that gradually he concluded it would be too risky to visit his family.

Britain gave him travel documents and permanent right of residence but not citizenship and he died stateless, hanged in Iraq as an alleged spy for Britain and Israel.

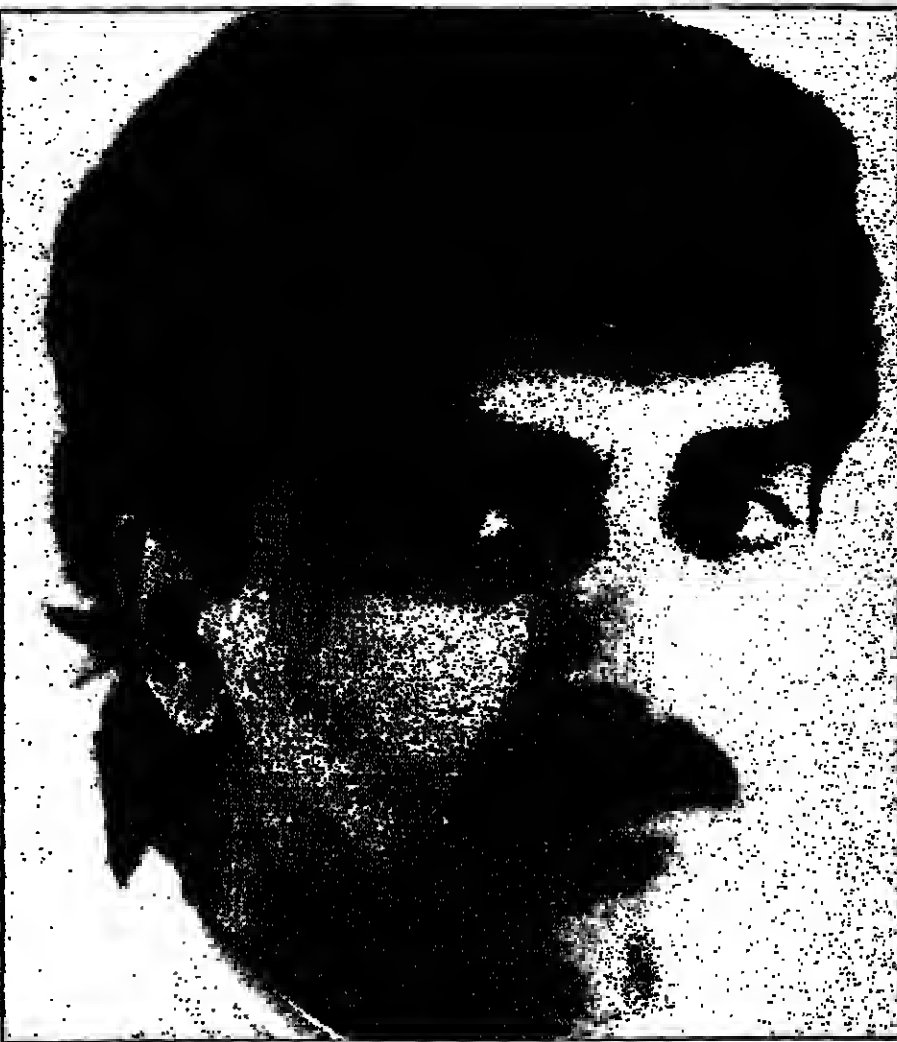
A 31-year-old bachelor without family in Britain, he often worked seven days a week driven by a goal of getting a permanent staff job on the 550,000-circulation Observer.

"He had several girlfriends but he didn't have anybody when he left (for Iraq last September)," Observer reporter Simon de Bruxelles told the Associated Press.

"He was a real lady's man, charming and talkative ... he was always laughing."

Bazoft joined the Observer in 1986 as a freelancer and was listed as one of the paper's foreign correspondents based in London.

On his computer terminal in the Observer news room Thursday, were simply the words, "May he rest in peace." His



Bazoft

clippings lay nearby.

While the Iran-Iraq war was on, Bazoft did well as a Middle East specialist, writing

occasionally for two other British national newspapers, the Daily Mail and the Daily Telegraph, and working periodically for

## Anglo-Iraqi relations strained

LONDON, (Reuters): The execution of journalist Farzad Bazoft has plunged Anglo-Iraqi relations into crisis but Britain believes a complete break with Baghdad would be counter-productive.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher condemned the execution of Iranian-born Bazoft on Thursday as "an act of barbarism which is deeply repugnant to all civilised people."

Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd announced that the government was recalling its ambassador from Baghdad, cancelling ministerial visits to Iraq and sending home six Iraqis receiving military training in Britain.

Iraq's ambassador to London was summoned to the Foreign Office to be told of Britain's outrage at the hanging of Bazoft. Hurd stopped short of breaking

diplomatic and trade links, telling Parliament Britain had to take care of the interests of 2,000 Britons who lived in Iraq.

## Ties

Britain has no ties with Libya, Iran or Syria, and a break with Iraq would reduce British influence in the Middle East.

"Others may urge that sanctions through trade or the total break in diplomatic relations might express their justifiable feelings of outrage," Hurd said. "In fact measures of that kind would be less effective and might end up doing no harm at all to Iraq and damaging this country more."

Last year British exports to Iraq totalled £450 million (\$729 million). Britain imported £93 million (\$151 million) worth of Iraqi goods.

Iraqi newspapers said Bazoft had con-

fessed that he spied for Israel and Britain and that his alleged missions were controlled by a mysterious spymaster called Michael.

British officials dismissed the allegations. The Sunday newspaper which Bazoft worked for, the Observer, insisted that he was simply doing his job as a reporter.

Official sources in London said Bazoft served a year in a British prison in 1981 for stealing £475 (\$760 dollars) after threatening to blow up the offices of a home loan company with a fake bomb.

The Foreign Office said Bazoft's prison record had no bearing on the steps it had taken against Iraq.

Despite an international chorus of condemnation of Bazoft's execution, Iraq remained unrepentant.

the BBC World Service.

By last year, Bazoft's main aim was to be made a full time staffer on the Observer.

## Desperate

"He wanted it more than anything else," said Walker. "Perhaps it made him particularly desperate to get a story out of his trip to Iraq ... when he heard about the explosion, he just felt he had to get the story no matter what."

In September Bazoft, on his seventh reporting trip to Iraq, was among a group of journalists invited by the Iraqi government. As usual, all were closely watched.

Then news broke of an explosion in August at a secret military installation 40 miles (64 kilometres) from Baghdad where the Iraqis are believed to be developing a missile. A London newspaper, the Independent, said 700 people were killed.

The Iraqis said Bazoft disguised himself as an Indian doctor and was driven to the Al Iskandaria complex by a British nurse working in Baghdad, Daphne Parish, 52, who's been jailed for 15 years.

Seven weeks after his arrest he was shown on Iraqi television looking dazed, his face bruised, and making a confession. Iraqi newspapers published similar handwritten confessions Thursday.

## Spy

Observer editor Donald Treford and other Observer journalists say they know Bazoft was not a spy.

"Farzad was never anything more than an enthusiastic journalist," said Ian Mather, until recently the Observer's defence correspondent. "Whatever he did was purely as a journalist and to try to find out what was happening and to try to get a scoop."

De Bruxelles said that ironically the Iraqis appeared to think that because Bazoft was an Iranian exile, he was on their side. "But he was a journalist," said De Bruxelles. "He did risky, hard-hitting stories."

Journalists on the September trip insisted the Bazoft was merely doing his job.

Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz accused Britain of showing a "colonialist mentality" and said Iraq would not submit to threats, blackmail or intimidation, according to a Baghdad Radio report monitored to the British Broadcasting Corporation.

Bazoft, 31, was sentenced to death last Saturday by an Iraqi revolutionary court which found him guilty of spying.

Although he made a confession on Iraqi television, he denied the charges in court.

A British nurse, Daphne Parish, who drove Bazoft to a secret Iraqi military installation in order to investigate reports of a massive explosion there, was jailed for 15 years.

An Iraqi man said to be involved in the case was jailed for 10 years, the Foreign Office in London said.

## Gorby moves power base

MOSCOW, (AP): Mikhail S. Gorbachev has moved his base of power from the Communist Party that has ruled the Soviet Union for seven decades to the government, which until now has played a subordinate role.

But the new powers may not remove all the hurdles facing Gorbachev, who may soon learn the frustrations of trying to push his economic programme through a legislature less willing than he to take radical actions. The Soviet president also won by only a slim margin in his parliamentary election to a more powerful presidency.

## Powers

The new post gives the Soviet president — at least on paper — powers akin to those of the president of the United States. It also provides similar limits, such as reserving for the legislature the right to make laws and control the government's purse strings.

If the schedule for elections holds, the Soviet people will for the first time choose their own leader in 1995. For the time being, however, Gorbachev will serve as the president elected by the Congress of People's Deputies, the country's representative Parliament chosen by competitive elections a year ago.

But the Supreme Soviet — the smaller, working legislature chosen by the Congress — already has won its reluctance to enact reforms designed to phase in a market economy as a cure for the paralysis of a centrally planned and centrally controlled system unable to respond to the recognized needs of a long-deprived society.

Although Gorbachev faces no serious challenger at the moment, the election results announced Thursday gave Gorbachev only 59.2 per cent of the full membership in a one-man

race, indicating considerable erosion of his support in the past year. Nearly 500 of the 2,245 members of Congress voted no, and more than 400 didn't vote at all, suggesting there is considerable silent opposition to the new president, perhaps strong enough to stymie many of his proposed reforms.

With the new separation of powers, Gorbachev will no longer preside over the Congress and the Supreme Soviet, which he stage-managed — sometimes deftly, sometimes brusquely — from his chair on the dais.

The structural overhaul completed Thursday was Gorbachev's second attempt to shift his power base, but this time it would appear he will accomplish his goal not only by building a new presidency but by stripping the party of its ability to dictate policy and practice at almost every level of Soviet society.

## Communist system

SIR: The news item carried by the agencies and reported in the front pages of your newspaper as "Super President" actually highlights the demise of the communist system. With the creation of powerful presidency, legalisation of private ownership and switch to multi-party system, Moscow is on the capitalist road.

The tunnel vision of the Western media and intellectuals has been the cause of underestimation of the extent of potential changes in the communist system and its leaderships. In the history of nations, the press and the intellectual elite sets the limits of action for the government. The way a nation moves is dependent on the agenda set by the intelligentsia of the society.

Today, the event attracting more press coverage than last week's meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party (which was to take far-reaching decisions to affect the future course of the world's super-power relationships) was the opening of McDonalds in Moscow. Big Macs became the "cause celebre" while the Central Committee discussed sensitive issues like, the executive presidency for Gorbachev.

## Bad Times

All these good things are happening in Moscow's bad times. Media highlights the marriage of Susan Eisenhower and Ronald Sagdeev, former head of the Soviet's space programme, as a sign of glasnost and perestroika. Last month, Forbes' exhibition of the

Faberge eggs, Susan Eisenhower's marriage, and Big Macs, overshadowed the much acute problems faced by the Soviet Union.

The Kremlin chief completed five years in power. Unlike the leader emerging out of the Soviet system before the ushering of "perestroika" and "glasnost" era, who were clever, quick-witted, unscrupulous and smart, Gorbachev delivered what nobody else did. With five years in power, he is single-handedly responsible in lifting the threat of nuclear annihilation of mankind, easing the fear of war and, through his reforms, brought changes in the platform of new communist parties in such a way that little remains of communism and the party no longer enjoys unquestioned authority.

The people of USSR are tough. They have lived through and endured sufferings inflicted as a result of the Bolshevik revolution. The leadership which finally evolved from the decadent pre-perestroika / glasnost Leninist-Soviet era was based on aggression contrary to the habitual government or leaderships whose power rests from tradition; their actions were based more on instinct.

The "Communist Manifesto" written by Karl Marx, closes with the following sentence, "Let the ruling classes tremble at the communist revolution. The proletarians have nothing to lose but their chains. They have a world to win. Working men of all countries unite!"

But once victory was achieved, this unity floundered and the old nationalistic strains and priorities became important for the unions. The basic doctrine of class struggle is based on habit of hatred and this means that once old enemies are vanquished, the system instinctively seeks new enemies.

In contrast to the above, the democracies developed in the West and capitalist countries are based on the psychology of the working man who does not feel that "he has nothing to lose but his chains." He is a subject and part of a great system based on incentives and returns; he looks for freedom, which not only removes his higher chains of economic dependency, but also the heavier chains of hatred.

For the Soviet Union, perestroika and glasnost have become "cause celebre" and Gorbachev is a "causa sine qua non"; the people of the world anyway would gain by and large from what is happening in USSR.

The abandonment of 72 years of policies, overnight, is simply not possible. Let's hope for the good of the world that Soviet Union entry into democratic world be steady without convulsions or ripples. The delicate balance between super-powers dictates that the changes should be gradual and reach the grass-root levels.

## Iqbal Latif, Kuwait.

## School affiliation

SIR: This is in reference to a news item which appeared in AT of March 7, under "Islamabad withdraws Affiliation of ISP". I, as a parent, of International School of Pakis-



Gorbachev: wields power

tan, am greatly distressed over this news as parents are caught in between this cross-fire by the present ISP management and the Embassy of Pakistan, Kuwait. We do not know whom to believe as both the groups claim controversial stories.

The principal of the school adamantly claimed that the affiliation of the school with Federal Board of Islamabad, Pakistan is intact, whereas the Embassy of Pakistan always denied it, with the result that the present lot of 41 students appearing at Matriculation exam are said to be appearing privately which is a great shock for the concerned parents. Regrettably our children studied in this institution for the last 10 years only to appear as private candidates.

If the press release by the embassy is true then the management of ISP should be co-opted for such an unscrupulous act of damaging the careers of our children. No good institution in Pakistan or any other part of the world would accommodate such students, who have been victimized for no fault of theirs.

It is a pity that the management of the school is only concerned with extorting money and even the private roll numbers were not handed over to parents unless tuition fee was paid in full.

I shall greatly appreciate if the Embassy of Pakistan call a meeting of parents to elaborate and clarify the situation for next would-be victims.

M. Aslam Bhatti, Safat.

## Iraq obsessed with security

AMMAN, (Reuters): Syria is executing a British-based Iraqi nationalist convicted of spying, Iraq has shown that its obsession with security far outweighs concern for international opinion.

Defying appeals for clemency from around the world, Iraq announced on Thursday it had executed Farzad Bazoft, a British-born journalist from London's Observer newspaper, after a Baghdad court sentenced him to death Saturday for spying.

Iranian-born Bazoft, 31, was arrested in September at a secret military complex in Iskandariya southwest of Baghdad, where he had gone to investigate reports of an explosion.

He admitted to spying for Britain and Israel on Iraqi television, but it said by his confession he had retracted his statements at his trial.

## Attitude

Given the tough attitude of Iraq's security forces and an extreme sensitivity on all matters, some journalists would have hesitated to evaluate Bazoft's attempt to cover the action.

Iraqi laws prescribe the death penalty for a range of offences apart from spying, including political or economic acts such as insulting the president and currency smuggling.

Responding to a warning from Britain that Bazoft's execution would severely damage relations with Baghdad, Iraqi Information Minister Laila Nassif Hassan described the world outcry as "flagrant interference" in Iraq's affairs.

"They (The British) know that the eyes of the Iraqi people are on their national security, and more important than any other factor," Jasssem said on Monday.

President Saddam Hussein, 52, all-powerful ruler of Iraq since 1968, has reasons to be on his guard in security matters.

Since a UN-mediated ceasefire halted the Gulf war in 1988, diplomats say Iraq has pressed ahead with military research and development of various weapons systems, including early-warning aircraft, long-range missiles and chemical warfare.

Last year it successfully launched a space satellite, the first Arab nation to do so.

## Protect

But the desire to protect military and industrial secrets from enemy spies only partly explains Iraq's security posture.

Iraq's lack of openness in its political system and the year completed a new draft constitution. Few diplomats, however, believe Hussein is ready to share his extraordinary power.

"Every voter in the GDR (East Germany) is called upon to use his right to vote and help build a better future in his homeland, as well as a free and united Germany in a free and united Europe," West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl before the East German elections on Sunday.

"I understand how dramatic the situation is, how complicated and unusual the problems are, and how emotionally charged society is, but I do not see any grounds for panic, let alone replacing perestroika with another policy. It is obvious, however, that perestroika should be radicalised. And I shall use my presidential powers to push all toward this end."

— Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev during a speech at the Congress of People's Deputies.

"For the past two decades, I have been followed, spied on, blackmailed and threatened. When people today point an accusing finger at me, especially people who made their peace with the regime — then they're pointing at the wrong person."

— Wolfgang Schnur as quoted by Bild newspaper.

"Some Western journalists in China were engaging in illegal activities and trying to whip up media opinion so as to provide some anti-China forces with a stick to beat China."

— People's Daily, Beijing.

"I think there's less danger today (of a Soviet strongman emerging) because they've come out of a totalitarianism of the past. They've convinced one of the reasons we've had peaceful change is the approach Gorbachev brought to bear on the problem. I think he is a reasonable man."

— US President George Bush in a congratulatory letter to Gorbachev's election as president.

"I thought we were with our right-hand and left-hand, and our paper cranes and we pray that these would be the words that could free the hostages."

— Terry Anderson's sister Pauline M. Petruzzella told about 180 people who attended an interfaith service Thursday night in Orchard Park, New York, marking the start of the 24-hour fast.

"Some day ... some day soon we hope — Terry Anderson and the other hostages will step into the light." — Dan Rather, a news anchorman with the US television network CBS, to several hundred people gathered for the ceremony.

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Kimberly Foster, star of Dallas wants to help the lonely.



Dynasty star Emma Samms helps seriously ill children and launched the Starlight Foundation to grant wishes to sick kids.



Donna Mills is a campaigner for Shelter For The Homeless.



Dynasty star Heather Locklear is helping to prevent suicides after the death of her cousin Dale.

## Angels of Hollywood

*When the cameras stop rolling, many of Tinseltown's most beautiful actresses slip into a warm-hearted, real life role. They do everything from preventing teenagers from committing suicide to going camping with wheelchair patients, and making dying children's dreams come true.*

From Frank Durham in Los Angeles

BENEATH the glitz, glitter and designer clothes of many of Hollywood's most beautiful actresses, beat hearts and pure gold. Once the cameras stop rolling, Tinseltown's angels go to work... helping the dying, sick and needy.

Dallas's beautiful Kimberly Foster and blonde Heather Locklear, of *Dynasty*, try to prevent despairing youngsters from committing suicide. Donna Mills, of *Knots Landing*, and actress and producer Terry Moore, who claims to be Howard Hughes' widow, help the homeless.

And Terry also enables paralysed people to walk for the first time. Another Dallas girl, Cathy Podewell, runs fun camps for young people suffering from a fatal form of muscular dystrophy.

Warm-hearted Michele Greene, of *A. Law*, helps children who have been terribly wounded in war-torn El Salvador. She even plans to risk her life by going into the country herself.

Terry, who has just produced and starred in Beverly Hills Brats, with Martin Sheen, told me: "I am one of the founder members of an organisation called Help Them Walk Again, which is based in Las Vegas."

"It is a really remarkable and wonderful place. And it is the only free clinic in the world where quadriplegics and paraplegics are helped to walk. The treatment is based on a method devised by Dr Gerald Petrowski, of Ohio."

"We have even had people hitchhike to the clinic in their wheelchairs. These patients wouldn't have had a hope of walking in their whole lives if it weren't for this clinic. Sometimes they take their first steps into my arms."

"Then I go back to encourage them to take a few more. I have also done a lot of fund-raising for the clinic."

**Protest**

Terry, who defied middle-age by posing for Playboy, is producing a film of her life, and has asked Sean Connery to star in it. But, between the wheeling

and dealing, she always finds time for people in need. She looked at her watch and told me: "At 5.15 this afternoon myself, Martin Sheen and a whole bunch of stars are going to feed about 150 homeless people here in West Hollywood."

"We're doing this as a protest. Because local residents are saying, 'It doesn't look nice to have these homeless people in the park.' I've just got back from Washington, where more than a hundred stars marched to raise money for the homeless."

"I have spent my last four Christmasmas giving presents to homeless children, and feeding them and the other people with nowhere to live."

Another star with the same mercy mission is beautiful Donna Mills, who plays Abby Ewing in *Knots Landing*. She believes the Hollywood army of homeless is growing. Today there are people who really are down and out in Beverly Hills.

Donna, aged 47, also spends her Christmases feeding the hungry. She told me: "I am campaigning for a shelter for the homeless. This is an issue which touches me very deeply. When these people are on the street, I can see the desperation in their faces."

"Homeless people are everywhere here, although the biggest congregation is Downtown."

"There have always been Skid Rows. But the people there in the old days were the ones who had dropped out of society. They usually drank or were drug addicts. Now the terrible thing is that there are also families on Skid Row, with women and children."

Shelter  
"These people have just fallen through the cracks of society and can't get back into it. They don't have the money for a place to live. Our shelter will make it possible for people who are down on their luck to have a place to go and to get some food. Then they will be able to get a job. For a boss doesn't want to hire somebody who

doesn't have a place to live."

Outside the M-G-M studios, where we were having lunch, Hollywood was teeming with people and cars. Parties were being planned and romances blossoming. But one beautiful international-model-turned-actress knew just how deceptive big cities can be. Kimberly Foster, aged 28, was lonely when she had homes in Paris and Milan and modelled in some of the world's most exotic locations.

Kimberly, who plays lustful Michelle Stevens in *Dallas*, told me: "There are many people out there who are lonely and need help. Especially those who live in big cities. It happened to me. Even when there are a lot of people around, you don't know anybody."

"As a model, I went on assignments where there were photographers, lighting guys and make-up people. I was involved with them from a working point of view. But, really, I was alone."

Kimberly knows that loneliness can turn to despair. And despair can be lethal. She went on: "I want to talk to these lonely people and help them out. So I am going to classes to learn how to be a volunteer with an organisation called The Suicide Prevention Centre."

"You have to study how to handle the calls from lonely and despairing people, that come into the switchboard. When I have trained, I will be able to call the organisation up and say that I would like to come in for a six-hour shift."

"The place works round the clock. I am also becoming involved in a charity that helps abused children. That sort of work is so rewarding."

Blonde Kimberly went on: "When I was an acting student, a group of us sponsored a woman drug addict who was living on the street with her three children. We got her into an Alcoholics Anonymous programme and put the kids to school. Then we tried to find the lady a job."

"I want to feel that I'm able to give something back to life because I'm so

blessed."

Another beautiful Hollywood actress who is working to help prevent suicide is *Dynasty*'s Heather Locklear. For 29-year-old Heather is haunted by the death of her favourite cousin, Dale, who shot himself. The actress believes that, if she had been able to take more notice of the warning signs, she may have been able to prevent 27-year-old Dale's suicide.

Heather said that she has become one of the leaders of the Youth Suicide Prevention Council. And she is fronting a campaign to make people more aware of the risks young people face.

She went on: "I believe teenagers can relate more to me than to an older person. I speak out what has happened in my own family. I tell about the changes in a person's behaviour that could be a warning. I speak about all the things I have learned since Dale's death."

"Maybe I could have said something then to make his or my parents aware that something was wrong. I recognise those warning signs now, although I didn't then."

"In the last few months, Dale was calling me more often. Wanting us to get together. My career was taking off, and I never made the time. I always thought I was too busy with my work or social life. I realise now that Dale was trying to share his problems."

"Had I understood what was going on, I would have acted very differently. One evening, when I got home from work, my sister told me he had shot himself. My heart sank into my stomach and I couldn't stop crying. I miss him everyday."

It was a family tragedy too, that turned English actress Emma Samms into one of Hollywood's beautiful angels. She decided to help seriously ill children after her brother Jamie died of plastic anaemia, aged eight.

Emma, aged 29, told me: "I experienced first-hand what a tragedy like this does to a family. And, while he

was ill, my father arranged for Roger Moore and footballer Bobby Charlton to visit Jamie. I saw how much these visits meant to him."

**Experience**  
There was a second heart-tugging experience that finally decided Emma to launch the Starlight Foundation, that grants wishes to very sick children. She recalled: "When I was 17 I did a film called Arabian Adventure with Chris Lee and Mickey Rooney."

"It had a Royal premiere to raise money for London's Great Ormond Street Hospital. I visited the hospital and saw a little boy called Sean, who was about to have a surgery on a brain tumour."

"The nurse asked me if I would mind going back to visit Sean, who was about 11, after his operation. It was to give him something to look forward to. I saw I would, and this started a friendship between myself, Sean and his entire family."

"Unfortunately, the surgery wasn't successful, and Sean knew he didn't have long to live. He always talked about visiting Disneyland, so I arranged for him to fly to Los Angeles to do just that. My cousin, Peter Samuelson, let us stay in his beautiful apartment."

"Sean and his mother had a fantastic time. It was nice for Sean to make his dream come true because he had dreamed. I realised that this was an easy thing for me to do, and it had a tremendous impact on Sean and his mother."

"Sean died shortly afterwards, but he left a lasting impression on myself and Peter. So, eight years ago, we found the Starlight Foundation. We grant wishes to children who deserve a nice little treat in their lives."

These range from buying the child a present, from a new bicycle to a puppy, to taking them on exciting trips or arranging for them to meet their favourite star.

Baywatch's David Hasselhoff, Mr. T of the *A-Team* and actor Charlton Heston are just a few of dozens of stars who have helped Emma gladden the hearts of sick children.

Emma told me: "One little boy had been sick for so long, the most exciting thing he could think of was riding on a bus. The bus company let him drive one... off the road, of course. Another boy had AIDS and his family had deserted him. His wish was just to go outside the hospital. We arranged for him to have a boat trip."

**Trips**

Another Hollywood angel who arranges for children to go on trips is L.A. Law's Michele Greene. She said: "I'm involved in a group called Medical Aid for El Salvador. We send money to set up clinics that move to wherever the fighting is worse. And every year, we bring to America a group of children who have war injuries."

"These children still have shrapnel or bullets in their bodies. Others have amputations which weren't done properly. Doctors here donate their time free of charge."

Michele, who is half Mexican and has a South American grandfather, went on: "The last group was composed of 15 children and their parents. We held a reception for them. They were the sweetest little kids. And they told us horror stories about the war."

Now the 27-year-old actress is planning to go to El Salvador to see for herself the work of the clinics. The idea has horrified her friends and relatives. She told me: "The situation is so volatile there. Every time I've planned to go, there has been some sort of uprising."

"I'm nervous about making the trip because there does happen to be a very active war going on. My friends say, 'Don't go - you're crazy'. And my mother is very apprehensive. She says, 'You may have gone there with good

intentions and just be riding on a bus. But that has just been blown up."

"Ours is a wonderful organisation, doing very dangerous work. But I'll go to El Salvador sooner or later. I shall try to be wise about the trip because I don't want my arm blown off, or to come home maimed in some other way."

Michele, who plays single-parent lawyer Abigail in the show, looked down at her slim, lithe body and chuckled: "There's not much of me to lose."

And another slim and lovely star, Cathy Podewell of Dallas, is no stranger to the sadder side of life, either.

**Volunteer**

For nine years she has been going to camp as a volunteer with youngsters suffering from muscular dystrophy. Now her new husband Steven has joined in the mercy work... and Cathy says: "Because of this I have fallen even more madly in love with him."

Cathy, who plays J.R.'s wife Cally in the show, said: "Most of these kids have a form of muscular dystrophy called duchenne. Sufferers are lucky to make it past 25. Last summer six of us counsellors organised a camp in beautiful country near Santa Rosa, California."

"It was perfect for us. We did our own thing and even cooked our own food. The place was accessible to wheelchairs and had a pool. That was great because the boys and girls feel free when they're swimming. They can just float."

"We had music and wheelchair dancing. When I go to these camps, for a week I think only of other people. I have a great time, which is filled with love. Over the years, these kids and I have been through so much together."

"So it does hurt when somebody dies. When I'm with the kids, I'm fine. But, at other times, I'm very emotional. When I tried to make a TV appeal and talked about the camp, I kept crying."

# How people come to power and exit

*The Years of Lyndon Johnson: Means of Ascent, by Robert A. Caro (Knopf, 506 pp., \$24.95)*

WHAT lingered as a bitter aftertaste in Robert Caro's first volume of Lyndon Johnson now has turned into complete revision. *Means of Ascent* from start to finish is a book of unending greed, ego and paranoia.

Started as a trilogy with *The Path to Power* in 1982, Caro's work is now two books long, billed as "multivolume" and has taken the reader only through 1948 when Johnson was first elected senator. That leaves a lot of ground yet to cover.

But there is plenty of fascinating ground in *Means of Ascent*. The book covers the years 1941-1948 and basically three events: Johnson's war record and later his fabrication of it; buying the tiny Austin, Texas, radio station KTBC and his floundering to make it the base of his personal wealth; and the 1948 Democratic senate race that Johnson won - or bought - by 87 votes.

This last is one of the most interesting races in US history and Caro's writing keeps you moving through mountains of information, dying to find out what is on the next page.

And Caro's research is as good as ever. He seems to have talked to everyone alive who knew about this race including some who never talked this way before.

Two come to mind right off. Luis Salas, chief informer for George Parr, the Duke of Duval Country whose control of the border vote won Johnson his seat, and long-time Johnson aide John Connally.

Salas before he died tells of his and others' roles in stuffing Ballot Box 13, the key box that nearly a week after the final 1948 vote count suddenly reported an additional 200 votes for Johnson pushing him over the top with his victory margin. Connally, later governor of Texas, never has been as open about his and Johnson's role in many of these events and provides great insight into the mind and personality of the man who was to become 36th president of the United States.

As important as writing and research are, it is analysis that has not been Caro's strong suit. In the first volume there was a feeling that Caro's disgust with Johnson skewed some of his analysis. There is no vagueness this time around. It is blackest hat for Lyndon and whitest hat for everyone else.

Caro says there are bright threads and dark threads that run through Johnson's life but admits almost none of the bright will be seen in this volume.

It is hard to imagine Caro will ever be able to resurrect any of the threads bright enough in the following volumes to do justice to Johnson's place as one of the most important American politicians of

the mid-20th century.

*Divorcing the Dictator: America's Enraged Affair with Noriega, by Frederick Kempe (Putnam, 456 pp., \$24.95)*

WASHINGTON'S reluctance to acknowledge the monster it created by putting Manuel Noriega on its payroll finally led to the US invasion of Panama, according to this account by the Wall Street Journal's diplomatic correspondent Frederick Kempe.

Noriega's career is traced back to 1976 when he began to co-operate with the Central Intelligence Agency, then run by George Bush, and Kempe follows the trail down to deposed dictator's surrender to US forces.

On the way, Kempe tells about Noriega's services for Cuba and the drug lords of the Medellin cartel. Besides the former dictator's illegal activities, the author also reviews the inconsistencies of US policy that led to the largest US overseas military action since the Vietnam war.

He also discusses allegations depicting Noriega as an amoral, sick person who after a period of benign dictatorship became a blood-thirsty tyrant. Kempe describes how the United States missed a chance to overthrow Noriega in 1989 when Maj Moises Giroldi led a failed coup attempt. Giroldi later was executed.

*Divorcing the dictator* is a tale of dirty tricks and deceit involving espionage, international gun running and drug-smuggling operations.

Kempe sees Washington's policies in a framework of constantly shifting priorities and influences. *The Heretic's Apprentice, by Ellis Peters (Mysterious Press, 192 pp., \$16.95)*

THE tension builds quickly in *The Heretic's Apprentice*, and Ellis Peters doesn't ease up until she has the title character facing not only a murder charge but even more serious, one of heresy.

This is No. 16 in Peter's tales of Brother Cadfael, a 12th century Benedictine monk who solves murder mysteries. She shows no more sign of exhausting the possibilities of medieval mayhem than Agatha Christie did of running out of plots for English village novels.

*The Heretic's Apprentice* is one of the best entries in this fine series. The apprentice, Elave, returns to Shrewsbury, England, from foreign travels with ideas that don't completely match the church line. Two men less than overjoyed at his return complain to a priest, and Peters' story is off and running.

## FAMILY DOCTOR

By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

**QUESTION:** When my husband was a boy he got shot in the leg with a BB gun. Believe it or not, the BB is still there, and he is 30 years old. It's right under the skin of his lower calf. He can move it up or down and sometimes it moves by itself. Is there a danger in this? Should he have it removed or just forget about it? Thanks for your opinion.

**ANSWER:** I still play the game by the rule. "If it isn't broken, don't fix it." Apparently your husband has been carrying around this BB for some time, and the fact that it is so freely moveable tells us that there has been no infection or inflammation that might have created fibrous tissue that would have "glued" the BB in place.

There are many cases in medical literature demonstrating that foreign bodies of this kind may remain in an individual for a lifetime without causing any additional problems. I suppose that its presence just below the skin seems to cry out for a little slice and a quick removal, but the possibility of introducing an infection into this space or poor healing after surgery must be taken into consideration as well. Unless it's causing your husband distress, my vote is for leaving it in place.

However, your story gives me the opportunity to once again make the plea that all the rules of safety be respected when dealing with these dangerous "toy" guns. While a BB under the skin of the leg may not be cause for concern, the same missile in a more crucial spot, say the eye, for example, might have created a tragedy. Parents should see that their children's play is supervised when the possibility of accidents from "toys" is present. Then the next generation of medical columnists won't have to worry about removing BBs.

**The Readers Speak:** The mail commenting on a recent answer dealing with canker sores in the mouth was both voluminous and varied. As usual, various treatments were proposed, all based upon personal experiences that were successful. Although research in the medical literature was unfruitful in substantiating some of the claims, they were interesting enough to pass on to you for your information.

## Leave pellet alone unless it's bothersome

Way out front in the number of positive comments was L-Lysine, an amino acid sold in tablet form in health food stores and also through some pharmacies. The dosages taken ranged from one to three capsules or tablets a day to two 500 milligram tablets every four hours.

One reader suggests touching the canker sore with milk of magnesia, while another assures me that Giersm toothpaste is the answer. One recommendation to use "alum" (a pickling spice) lost my interest when it was described as painful with a bad acid taste, but might not be much worse than the silver nitrate sticks some physicians use as treatment.

To me the most interesting came from Richard Chace Jr., a dentist who prefers a Chlorhexidine mouth wash (Peridex) as being effective even against cankers provoked by viruses. His admonition that dentists see more of these cases in a month than most physicians do in a lifetime is well taken. His opinion that "dentists are frankly much better trained to deal with them" certainly makes sense, and his case for collaboration between dentist and physician hits the centre of the mark. I'll remember that in future circumstances when dealing with oral conditions in this column.

Your heart beats more than 85,000 times a day as it sustains life, yet most people don't think about this vital organ until illness strikes. Learn how to maintain a healthy heart in Dr Bruckheim's latest Health Update, *The Human Heart: An owner's Manual*. To order your copy, send \$2.95 to Heart, P.O. Box 4406, Orlando, Fla. 32802-4406. Make cheques payable to Newspaperbooks.

Dr Allan Bruckheim welcomes questions from readers. Although he cannot respond to each one individually, he will answer those of general interest in his column. Write to Dr Bruckheim in care of this newspaper, P.O. Box 119, Orlando, Fla. 32802-0119.



## VARIETY

## TV channel in London

## New window to the Arab world

By Katia Sabet

CAIRO (WNL): The concept of a "global village" touted by communications experts took new meaning recently for the many Arabs who live in Europe. Using the latest technology, a young entrepreneur who has risen to be the youngest film producer in Egypt took advantage of Cairo's recent cinema festival to announce the creation of an Arab TV channel scheduled to start broadcasting from London this spring.

Medhat el Cherif disclosed his new project before a crowd of celebrities from the entertainment world.

## Trend

"The idea to set up an Arab channel was born from the longing that many Arabs living in adoptive countries feel for the type of media they enjoyed back home," explained Atef Ibrahim, chief executive for one of El Cherif's many companies. "Although they often have the opportunity to watch Arab video movies, these exiles aren't satisfied with movie productions because they don't portray real everyday life back home; what they want is the real thing, information on current events within the social context they remember."

To start with the Arab channel is scheduled to broadcast from 7 a.m. to noon and offer a condensed version of a full 24-hour programming including the Quran,

which will start the day, special shows for children, new bulletins, cultural happenings, dramas and sports coverage.

"We will receive our news everyday from the news agencies, and the channel will buy cultural programmes from a variety of Arab nations," Atef Ibrahim said. "But we hope to have drama series and plays produced just for our channel; these will take in account social trends and problems of particular interest to Arabs living abroad. Of course the slice of programming set aside for fiction works will also present the best productions from the Middle East and the Maghreb."

The public will be able to receive the channel — temporarily called "Arab Channel" via cable or satellite. At first viewers will pay nothing to tune in, which should enable the public to familiarise itself with the format, sponsors hope. Right now work is progressing at the London building where headquarters will be located. The equipment was provided by Tamido Film, another firm from the El Cherif group.

## Choice

At the helm will be a veteran of Egypt's radio, Dr Mohammed Tewfik, assisted by media specialists such as art critic Waghah Khairi, and of course El Cherif himself, whose interest for anything to do with film or television production never wavers, Atef Ibrahim said.

While some question the choice of location for the station — Paris was mentioned as a more central location than London for a European channel — Atef Ibrahim pointed out that the distance between the two capitals is short. And language was an important factor, he added. A majority of the shareholders who financed the channel speak English and lived in England.

A resident of Germany, Leila El Baghouri expressed her enthusiasm for the project. "I admit that German television is very interesting, especially when it comes to news and documentaries; and we also get from France and Germany excellent cultural programmes. But all of us living abroad feel a certain nostalgia for broadcasts in the Arabic language which tell us about our country and our roots," she commented. "And what's very important is that it will enable our children who grow up in a foreign culture to hear the language of their country spoken by people other than their parents."

## Impact

Other comments came from a famous couple, actor Moshen Mohieddine and his wife, actress Nesrine. "The fact that the new channel from Egypt will stimulate us and encourage us to improve," he noted. "This channel opens up incredible vistas, it will more than double our audience."

"Foreigners will become acquainted with

our production," Nesrine said. "I don't know how the TV people will manage the dubbing or the adding of subtitles, but for sure the channel will increase the size of our audience. It will be an incentive for the writers, actors and producers. In the long term the Arabic Channel will have a great impact on quality."

For art critic and director Rafik el Sabban, the creation of the channel is a needed parallel to what has happened in the written media with the publication of Arabic newspapers in many foreign countries. "There was an urgent need for a TV channel that would give an outlet to the greater effort under way to popularise Arabic literature, and show the world films, plays and other artistic endeavours that a foreign public would never see otherwise," he said. "Modern painting, for example, is very sophisticated in the Arab world, and this colour channel is an open door to a much greater audience."

"My first thought is for the artistic impact of the Arabic Channel because that's my field," Sabban admitted, "but I don't doubt that it will have a positive effect in many other domains."

Is the world ready for a global village, ready to share and accept different cultures? Medhat el Cherif and his team are betting that the miracles of modern technology are also changing man's perception of his environment as limited by borders and traditions.



Medhat El Cherif announces the creation of an Arab television channel scheduled to broadcast from London.

## Record company making waves

By Jim Lewis

NASHVILLE, Tennessee, (UPI): Atlantic Records is a relative new kid on the block in country music, but already the company is making waves.

The label is making the rare move, in country music at least, of underwriting a tour to promote two of its acts.

Jeff Stevens and the Bullets and Robin Lee both have new albums out for Atlantic and both have charted singles out of *Boombtown* for the former and *Black Velvet* for the latter.

Stevens, a native of West Virginia, has been working with Atlantic for about four years. Lee, a Nashville native, has been with the label about three years. Atlantic opened its Nashville office about a year ago.

"The reason they picked Robin and me and the Bullets to do it (the tour) is that they believed in us," Stevens said. "I think we've got something different so we're going out to meet first hand the people in the field and let them get to see us first hand. They want the radio people to see us live the first time so they can know what we're about."

"There will be no overlap. The record company is trying to exploit that and it will help to sell records."

Lee said she and Stevens have been with Atlantic "since dirt."

"Jeff and I had stuck around and many times we wondered if we were going to make it to the next week or be on the drop list. The label wants to give us a fair shot," she said.

Lee, whose first interest in music was a classical pianist, said underwriting the tour is a "big commitment" by Atlantic.

"They are spending a lot of money, but the people at the label are also working hard to make this work. They are spending the money in the right way," the vocalist said.

"Our hands are working at a reasonable rate and are really putting in the time and effort. I've been to a lot of radio stations in my car, and I helped a lot. But it doesn't look like good when you pull up in a Plymouth Sundance, though. I guess you can't records. But at least you're doing something," Lee said.

Both Stevens and Lee feel their particular brand of country music will complement each other.

"We are both on the cutting edge of country music. It's not traditional country and it's not pop. It's just music from our heart. I think it's new and fresh and not predictable," Lee said.

"We've had a chance to rehearse together. We're pretty compatible," Stevens said.

Asked if the tour was a make or break thing for his career, Stevens said:

"I don't feel that way, maybe I ought to. I've been trying for a long time. Most people are in music have been working at it for a long time, but I'd like to do it now. I hope we do well. If it doesn't, I'm just going to back up and keep trying again. The scary thing about it is that Atlantic is putting forth a lot of effort for me and Robin, too."

Lee said it's like she and Jeff are Atlantic's "little babies."

"There will be no stone unturned. For our part, we're going to do our best to perform the best we can."

## 'Sleep Phone' anaesthesia

INSTEAD of being anaesthetized by injection or through a rubber facemask, children at a British hospital are using a "sleep phone" developed by one of its operating theatre technicians.

When the children enter the anaesthetics room of the ears, nose and throat operations theatre at Southmead Hospital in Bristol, south-west England, they are invited to take a telephone call, which tells them a favourite children's story, recites a nursery rhyme or plays music. But while they listen to the relaxing words or music, sleep-inducing halothane gas is delivered via the microphone of the specially adapted telephone.

The idea of relaxing children before their operation came to theatre technician Ralph Smith after watching a child play with a toy telephone that used a taped message. He experimented and adapted a batch of old hospital telephones that were being replaced by new ones.

Smith says the children can listen to a tape supplied by him or alternatively bring their own favourite tape with them. He continued: "We have found that it keeps the children calm and interested while they wait and it takes the fear out of being anaesthetized. The children tell other children in their ward that there is nothing to be frightened of when they go back after their operation. They are also less apprehensive if they have to return for more surgery."

The idea is now being demonstrated to other hospitals, although it is not yet available commercially. Smith believes it could also be used by dentists who have to administer gas to young children.

## Oscar nominees

## Best actor contest turns into a wheelchair race

By Ivor Davis

AS Oscar time comes around again, one thing looks clear: this year's best actor contest will be a wheelchair race — literally.

In one corner there's Tom Cruise as the paraplegic Vietnam vet Ron Kovic in *Born on the Fourth of July*. He's wheeling furiously against English actor Daniel Day-Lewis as the Irish cerebral palsy victim Christy Brown who becomes a famous painter and writer in *My Left Foot*.

All acting comparisons are odious. George C. Scott once proclaimed, and this one more than most. While the differences between the performances are more striking than the similarities, it seems inevitable that as the pack thins out these two wheelchairs will be front and centre in the spotlight in March for the awards.

*My Left Foot*, which was shot in Dublin, is a low-budget offering from the minuscule cottage industry that is the Irish film business, by a neophyte film director Jim Sheridan. The opposition is a lavishly mounted big-studio (Universal) release from award-laden powerhouse director Oliver Stone.

Both films leave you gasping. *Fourth of July*, under Stone's direction, hurries the viewer from scene to scene with all the subtlety of a pile driver on concrete. *My Left Foot*, with its quiet eloquence, details the world of Irish poverty with an unparalleled richness.

## Loss

Both stars play handicapped men. Cruise as Kovic is a man struggling to come to terms with loss — the loss of his manhood and his faith in God, his country and his family. Day-Lewis as Brown has nothing whatsoever to lose. He starts off as little more than a lump under the stairs in his meagre Dublin home. He miraculously transforms into a man who, through his own genius and courage, becomes an artist and an author.

As Kovic, Cruise rants and raves and curses his fate. He rails against members of his family who mouth off platitudes when he returns home from the war a broken man. Day-Lewis has none of these traditional tools of the actor at his command. As Brown his voice is largely incomprehensible for much of the film and drawing and distorted for the rest. His body is twisted and virtually useless except

for his well-trained left foot. He acts — magnificently — with his eyes. And never before has there been such an expressive chin — clenched in defiance, swaying softly in love, sunken into his chest in despair. Day-Lewis uses it in as eloquent a manner as Richard Burton used his voice or Laurence Olivier his physique.

## Comparison

The comparison is most obvious in the emotional scenes central to each film. In *Fourth of July* Kovic, on a drunken binge, explodes at his mother, taunting her with his impotence, cursing at her in the kind of erotic profanity she can least handle. The audience laughs at the mother's earnest attempts to maintain her standards: "Don't say 'penis' in this house," she warns.

In *My Left Foot* Brown, following his triumphant first show of paintings, is dining at an elegant restaurant with the woman he has fallen in love with and the owner of the gallery. After Brown has confessed his love for the woman she announces her plans to marry the gallery owner. Brown, getting drunk and drunker, lashes out in frustration and seems to revert back to some primal stage: he bangs his head on the table and grabs the tablecloth in his teeth, sending dishes, glasses and silver crashing to the floor. It is exultantly embarrassing and the audience would give anything to leave, to not be forced to watch this degree of pain and humiliation. It is acting at its finest.

Watching Day-Lewis become Brown was a revelation for his fellow actors. He spent eight weeks at a Dublin clinic observing cerebral palsy victims to better understand the role he had to play. He stayed in character and in the wheelchair throughout the entire filming, refusing to use his own voice, feed himself or do anything that Brown could not have done.

Irish actress Brenda Fricker, who plays Brown's mother brilliantly, recalls a scene that was later cut where she is dressing Brown for his big appearance at a black-tie charity fundraiser. Fricker used the opportunity to let Day-Lewis know just how powerful and deserving of the Oscar his performance was. While putting on his bow tie she whispered to him, "You better keep this. You're going to be needing it."

Universal is betting that Cruise will be pressing his tuxedo come Oscar time. They have backed their hunch with millions of dollars worth of promotions. And they're holding all the aces in what would seem to be an uneven race. Academy voters like nothing better than to see a commercial actor do a part that is completely contrary to his image. Pretty-boy, teen-age idol Cruise playing a broken hulk rotting away in a Veterans Administration hospital seems tailor-made to play to the Academy gallery.

Director Stone, who couldn't get the film off the ground until he cast Cruise in it, has used Kovic's story to make a political point about the American society that sent young men off to the horror that became the war in Vietnam. He is a director all too familiar with manipulation techniques and ingenuity about using every one of them.

Sheridan didn't have to manipulate. The film he directed is one of such honesty and courage that it is inspiring enough without tricky camera angles or set effects.

Although each of these men's tales couldn't be more different, they have one important thing in common. The central relationship in each is between a boy and his mother. Kovic's mother (Caroline Kava) is, as described in a memorable phrase coined by Sheila Benson of *The Los Angeles Times*, the "moon from hell," a rabidly anti-communist, Catholic woman, who fed God and country to her son with his Wheaties. She gets caught up in frantically trying to hold on to her middle-class values when her son becomes radicalised by the truth about the war he fought in.

Brown's mother is a woman racked by dire poverty and beaten down by childbearing — she was pregnant 22 times — who serves as her son's tower of strength, the source of the love he feels and the fountain from which his confidence springs.

To watch Day-Lewis and Fricker perform this duet without words is to watch two highly skilled virtuoso.

"Daniel and I talked about it," Fricker says, "and we decided that the love between them was so strong that they didn't even have to touch each other. There was no need to be tactile, no cuddling, no stroking. It's all there in the eyes."



Best Actor nominee Tom Cruise, sitting in chair holding flag, in 'Born of the Fourth of July'. (Photo: Roland Neve)

## Mayo Clinic diet

## Now you, too, can lose weight

By Charles E. Debevec

MINNEAPOLIS (UPI): Now you, too, can lose weight the Mayo Clinic way in the comfort of your home.

The famed Rochester Minnesota, health centre, which criticises fat diets as unsafe and unhealthy, for the first time has revealed its own weight-loss plan, based on how its doctors and dietitians have helped overweight patients.

"We decided it's time to give people what they've always wanted and what that is the Mayo Clinic diet," said Dr P.J. Palumbo, editor of the Mayo Clinic Nutrition Letter, which has about 90,000 subscribers. "The goal is to lose one pound (450g) a week without gimmicks. Those who move more often than to walk to the refrigerator and left their arms to do something other than to shove in their next cupcake will shed pounds faster, the Mayo dieticians say. Mild exercise is part of the plan."

"For years, we've tried to put to rest rumours of a Mayo Clinic diet," Palumbo wrote in the newsletter. "Despite our efforts, a handful of bizarre diets bearing (the) Mayo Clinic's name continue to circulate in chain-letter fashion. We'll continue to disclaim the egg and grapefruit regimens. At the same time, we'll give you a legitimate approach for losing weight."

Anyone who wants to lose weight should consult with their doctor before embarking on any diet, including the Mayo's, Palumbo said.

The Mayo diet calls for people to eat readily available foods without having to pay for pricey nutritional additives or risk vitamin and mineral deficiencies, he said. The diet uses ordinary foods, such as chicken, fish, beef, potatoes, bananas, peanut butter, whole wheat bread, oatmeal, broccoli and cauliflower.

A copy of the diet can be obtained by calling or writing the clinic and requesting a copy of the February issue of the Newsletter (3).

Dietitians generally can figure out how many calories they are allowed each day by multiplying their body weight by 10 (a 200-pound person would be allowed 2,000 calories) and shouldn't go much below 1,400 calories a day.

## Approach

"It is a diet you can live by and doesn't require you to buy other products to supplement vitamins and minerals," Palumbo said.

Alice Lichtenstein, an assistant professor at Tufts University, said the Mayo diet is conservative.

"It sounds like a sensible approach," Lichtenstein said. "If you are at 200 pounds and you consume 2,000 calories... there definitely will be weight loss, especially if you increase exercise."

The Mayo's idea of exercise is walking just enough to increase breathing noticeably — up to 30 minutes — because it is the easiest and the safest.

"If you do anything more strenuous, then you have to vary according to the health of the individual and the age of the individual," Palumbo said.

The goal is to create a deficit of 300-500 calories a day, which will burn off about one pound of fat each week, he said.

"You won't lose fast but you won't be starving and having food on your mind," Palumbo said.

Another advantage is that people who lose weight slowly tend to keep it off longer than those who use crash diets or resort to surgical methods such as liposuction or stomach stapling.

"We are trying to initiate behavioural changes that will last forever," Palumbo said. "We don't have proof that it (weight loss) will last forever but we do have proof that it will

stay off longer."

The Mayo Clinic, which also has satellite clinics in Arizona and Florida, has 12 doctors who devote their practice to nutrition and related health matters, and another 70 dietitians.

In preparing the diet, the clinic was concerned about protecting its reputation as well-respected medical research centre, Palumbo said.

"Image is very important. We don't want to appear as just another commercial enterprise out to make a buck," he said.

The basic Mayo diet plan calls for the intake of 1,400 calories a day, with about 55 percent from carbohydrates, 20 percent to 25 percent from protein and less than 30 percent from fat. It provides for graduated increase in the three categories for those who desire more daily calories.

Dietitians can consume seven starch serving daily, preferably whole grain. Examples of a single serving are one slice of bread or one-half cup of cooked pasta, rice, potatoes, peas or corn.

Dietitians are allowed to eat five protein servings each day, with one serving equal to one ounce of lean meat, poultry or fish, one egg, one ounce of low-fat cheese or two tablespoons of peanut butter if you omit two fat servings.

Milk is limited to three one-cup servings of skim milk or non-fat yogurt. Fruit is called for three times a day, with amounts varying by type.

Vegetable servings are allowed twice a day, either one-half cup cooked or one cup raw.

Dietitians also are allowed two fat servings, with one serving equal to one strip of bacon or one teaspoon of margarine, vegetable oil or mayonnaise.

(The clinic can be reached by calling 1-507-254-4577 or by writing to: the Mayo Clinic Health Letter, 200 First Street S.W. Rochester, Minnesota, 55905.)



Daniel Day-Lewis being wheeled by actress Brenda Fricker in 'My Left Foot'. (Photo: Jonathan Hession)



# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## Quota system needed

VIENNA, March 16, (Kuna): Algerian Minister and president of the Opec conference Sadig Boussema, believed that Opec still needed the umbrella of the quota system and said demands being made for the undoing of the system were premature as the discipline imposed by the Opec oil production regime was both essential and helpful, at least for the time being.

He was speaking to Opec on arrival here last night for the meeting today of the Opec price and production monitoring committee.

He pointed out that oil demand still lagged behind Opec supply and he did not see how the quota system could be scrapped without damaging the stability of the oil market.

Asked about the relative weakness in the market currently, he said it is no more than what we expected... the second quarter is traditionally like this, but added confidently that the situation would change in the later part of the year with demand going up.

About today's meeting of the eight-member ministerial committee, he said: "This is not a meeting where decisions will be taken. We will assess the situation, review developments so far, analyse the evolution of oil prices, the behaviour of the market, identify the different factors at work then arrive at the right conclusions, the correct strategy."

The committee groups Algeria, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela.

Nigerian Petroleum Resources Minister Prof. Jibril Aminu has said that market stability and security of demand and supply should continue to govern Opec's production strategy.

## New currency, price freeze announced

BRASILIA, March 16, (Reuters): Brazilian President Fernando Collor de Mello announced emergency anti-inflation measures today, including a brief price freeze and a new currency.

Collor, 40, who took office on Thursday, said Brazil's youngest president, said on television the country would return to the cruzado as its currency. He gave no details.

Under Collor's predecessor, Jose Sarney, Brazil had three currencies in succession — the cruzado, cruzado and new cruzado.

Officials said prices would be frozen until April 15.

## GIC net income surges

KUWAIT, March 16, (Reuters): The Gulf Investment Corporation (GIC) said yesterday its net income rose by 44 per cent in 1989 to \$55.3 million.

The Kuwait-based corporation said in a statement the growth represented a 10.3 per cent return on paid-up capital and an eight per cent dividend would be distributed.

The GIC was formed in late 1983 by the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) as an investment vehicle. It puts money mainly in now-oil projects and financial instruments like foreign fixed-income securities.

Assets rose by 13 per cent in 1989 to \$1.94 billion with investments in 12 projects, the statement said.

The GCC groups Opec members Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates with Bahrain and Oman.

The effect of the weather showed up most strongly in fuel oil prices, which rocketed 25.3 per cent in January and plummeted 30.2 per cent in February. They were the biggest increase and decrease since the department began tracking that price in 1973.

Gasoline prices fell 2.3 per cent last month after rising 16.7 per cent in January. Natural gas prices edged up 0.1 per cent after jumping 3.2 per cent in the previous month.

US industrial production, pulled down in January by a cutback in automobile output and utility use, bounced back 0.6 per cent in February with the return of auto workers, the government said today.

The Federal Reserve said February's advance followed a revised 1.0 per cent drop in January's output and 0.1 per cent gain in December. January's output originally was reported to have fallen 1.2 per cent.

## Gorbachev seen aiming to use powers to speed economic change

MOSCOW, March 16, (Reuters): Mikhail Gorbachev, his grip on the Kremlin being strengthened by new presidential powers, has clearly set as a priority the crushing of conservative resistance to radical economic reform, analysts said today.

The analysts, both Soviet and foreign, said the coming weeks were likely to see moves by Gorbachev to push the country towards the market economy his liberal advisers see as essential if it is to emerge from a mounting social crisis.

"There is no doubt in my mind now that he is determined to move fast against the old dogmatists — and that some very senior heads could fall if they do not shape up to what he wants," said one Moscow-based Western economic expert.

"He will certainly use his presidential powers to take control of the economy and

make it move in the direction he wants," said a senior Soviet official.

"We have some interesting weeks ahead," he said in a speech on Thursday to the parliamentary congress of people's deputies after it elected him the country's first-ever executive president.

Gorbachev outlined a programme in almost total accord with that of his pro-market economic advisers.

The tone of the address indicated that radical thinkers like Nikolai Petrakov who heads a group of economists with the ear of the Kremlin chief had convinced him that quick action on several fronts could not be avoided.

"Laws and decisions to demopolitise the economy brook no delay," Gorbachev declared, signalling determination to break the power of government ministries.

"I believe decisive measures to radicalise

the economic reform are essential," he said. "We must get down to creating a genuine and full-blooded domestic market... we cannot get by without a reform of prices, supply and marketing... and the creation of first commodity and then stock exchanges."

Gorbachev signalled haste at the speed with which the government headed by Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov had moved towards implementing an economic reform package it presented last December to the Congress.

The package was widely seen as representing a softened version of a radical blueprint outlined a month earlier by Deputy Premier Leonid Abalkin whose brief it was to promote reform — and whose views Gorbachev echoed on Thursday.

He told the Congress the government was largely responsible for carrying through the

reform programme. "At the same time, it will be necessary to issue presidential decrees on key questions, clearly setting out tasks, time-frames and the people responsible," he said, referring to the new powers his presidential role provide.

"For me, this looks like the writing on the wall for Ryzhkov," said one economic analyst in a Western embassy. "Many of my Soviet contacts tell me the only reason he is still there is that there is no present alternative."

Another foreign analyst said the 60-year-old Ryzhkov, who almost tearfully threatened in Congress this week that he might resign if media of his government was not halted, could still be useful to Gorbachev.

The analyst said the one-time manager of a major urals heavy machine-building plant

— who has never exhibited any high political ambition — "is at least familiar with how industry operates in this country and how you get things done."

Gorbachev himself recognised the social problem facing him in breaking from the old command economy, with its minimum demands on workers, to a more dynamic system matching the economics of the developed world.

Creating a market, he said, was "a highly complicated economic, political and psychological problem" — a clear reference to resistance within the Kremlin and alarm among ordinary people at the prospect of any "return to capitalism."

Last weekend, one Moscow television programme portrayed the extent to which decades of communist propaganda is still affecting the popular psyche through an

interview with an elderly peasant woman living in clear poverty.

"The (1917) Bolshevik revolution brought us a new life," she said as the camera showed her staggering across a filthy yard in a crumbling wooden house and eating food from cans. "If the capitalists came back, they would take this away."

Gorbachev indicated he was ready to face public wrath at unpopular reforms — like price increases on basic goods and on housing and other services whose low cost to the consumer have played a large part in undermining the economy.

"We must be totally frank: the implementation of the large-scale measures (in implementing reform) will put our society in new conditions and initially may be accompanied by painful process affecting people's interests," he said.

## 'Middle class will get hurt'

# Taxing Indian budget feared

NEW DELHI, March 16, (Reuters): Members of India's 100 million-strong middle class, just starting to enjoy their new status, could be hit hard by next Monday's budget which economists expect will slap heavy taxes on them.

They said India's budget would need drastically to raise direct as well as indirect taxes to bridge what will probably be a huge deficit due to increased defence spending.

"It will be a budget of politics rather than economics and the middle class will get hurt," said Surjit Bhalla of the independent Delhi economic think tank, the policy group.

He said Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh's government, which replaced Rajiv Gandhi's after a general election last November, would not risk bold initiatives in its first budget.

Raised tensions with traditional foe Pakistan over a Muslim uprising in India's Kashmir state would prevent cuts in a defence budget that

stood at 130 billion rupees (\$8.6 billion) last year, economists said.

Singh is also pledged to write off loans to farmers and fund more projects for the poor to maintain the populist image that won him power.

"He will continue with farm subsidies to the detriment of incentives for industry, tell people to tighten belts to help the poor and raise both direct and indirect taxes," Bhalla said.

He said taxes were likely to be levied on what the government will consider luxury items — the colour television sets and refrigerators that have in the past decade become essentials for the middle class.

Economists said such tax increases would bring to a temporary halt a decade-long consumer boom.

The middle classes started exerting their economic power in the late 1970s, when clerks and teachers started to buy stocks and shares in blue chip companies quoted in India's most conspicuous economic indicator, the Bombay Stock

Exchange. The market boomed after Gandhi took office in 1984, promising all liberalisation policy aimed at reducing economic controls to stimulate domestic and foreign investments.

Gandhi decided socialist-style controls, which gave a sluggish public sector preference over the private, would prevent India from competing for shrinking international markets.

The policy also allowed imports of what were previously considered luxuries.

"What was considered a luxury is now regarded by the middle classes as a necessity," said economist P. Panandikar of the Centre for Policy Research.

Panandikar estimated that annual earnings of a middle class family at around 50,000 rupees (\$2,941), 10 times the Indian average. It was exhibited through domestic holiday travel and eating out in luxury hotels.

## American oil use drops

NEW YORK, March 16, (UPI): US petroleum consumption last month dropped more than 1 million barrels daily, or 6.5 per cent, from a year ago in one of the warmest Februarys on record, the American Petroleum Institute reported yesterday.

The oil industry's monthly survey found a daily average of 16.61 million barrels was supplied to domestic customers, compared with 17.76 million barrels in February 1989.

Deliveries of home heating oil and other distillate fuel oils dropped 7.3 per cent to 3.16 million barrels a day from last year's 3.41 million barrels daily, API said.

Discounting relatively small month-to-month variations in the amount of petroleum products in storage, deliveries are roughly equal to consumption.

"For distillate fuel oil, unusually warm weather was at least partly responsible for that product's decline," the organisation said.

Most of the nation's heating oil is consumed in the northeast. The National Weather Service's New York City Bureau said last month was the fourth warmest February on record.

API said the 6.5 per cent drop in all petroleum deliveries "was considerably more than the 1 to 3 per cent, year-to-year (monthly) decreases typical since mid-1989," when gasoline demand flattened in the wake of rising prices.

## Dollar lower

## Investors hold back

LONDON, March 16, (Reuters): European investors kept mainly to the sidelines today ahead of East German elections on Sunday which could hold the key to future currency trends.

The dollar ended about one penny lower against the West German mark after a generally uneventful week on the continent's foreign exchanges.

The market was also subdued by a lack of any movement by Japan on raising interest rates to defend the yen.

The dollar had started to ease yesterday after President George Bush said US interest rates needed to be kept down.

A batch of US economic data today, including producer prices and housing starts, had negligible impact, dealers said.

They said the market was waiting the outcome of Sunday's first free elections in East Germany which are expected to be followed by the release of more details of the plan for German monetary union.

The West German mark has dropped recently because of fears that the potentially huge cost of the union to Bonn could boost inflation in Europe's biggest economy.

Japan continued to keep the market waiting on whether it would raise its official discount interest rate, currently at 4.25 per cent, to defend the weakening yen.

"We do not have enough data to make a decision now," a Bank of Japan official said yesterday.

The Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno said yesterday that the central bank was "jittery" about monitoring the effect of three discount rate increases last year. A bank spokesman said the word had a lot of connotations, including "without haste."

Gold edged back over \$400 an ounce but dealers said there was little interest in the bullion market. It ended in London at \$400.55 after \$398.75 yesterday.

## CANADIAN IMMIGRATION — WINNERS AND LOSERS

by John Garulli and Benito Rotella

PART SIX: I am a Canadian, Je suis Canadien.

A citizen of Canada. Imagine that. But it is not as difficult as you imagine. As with everything else in Canada, follow the rules and the results will follow.

But what does being a Canadian citizen mean? It means someone who enjoys all the rights and privileges as laid down in the Canadian Constitution. There are three basic principles: full political participation, foreign travel and the freedom to return and, finally, full economic rights.

You will be a new Canadian and your rights and freedoms will be no different from those of several generations of Canadians. What must you pay, in return? Loyalty to Canada, which you declare in the oath of Citizenship, is all that citizenship will cost you. This doesn't mean you have to have a flag-raising ceremony in your front yard every morning before you drag the kids off to school. No, Canada is a new home, not a nationalistic theatre. It means that you "will faithfully observe the laws of Canada and fulfil my duties as a Canadian citizen." (Oath of Citizenship)

Nor does it mean that you have to turn around and deny your love for back home. Provided the laws of your former home allow you to hold dual citizenship, Canada finds no objection in your holding two passports. The decision such as military service back home and maybe even taxes. But that's up to you.

What are the prerequisites? The requirements of the Citizenship Act are quite straightforward. And pretty normal, at that. You must have been lawfully admitted to Canada, that is, as a landed immigrant. You should be 18 years of age or older and you must have resided in Canada for a total of three years within the four years

immediately before your application for citizenship. There are several details in all this and a stack of required documents, but your consultant, if he is any good, will make sure you read the fine print.

One very important requirement is that you must know either English or French. But don't run off and learn the sonnets of Shakespeare or the works of Victor Hugo. You simply have to know either language well enough to make yourself understood in your community. If you can read this, for example, you will probably pass with flying colors — red and white.

After your consultant has taken you through all the papers and prepared all the documents required by the authorities, then you have an interview with a Canadian Citizenship judge who will determine whether or not you know enough of one of the two official languages and you have an adequate knowledge of Canada. But it's an interview and not an interrogation. You get all the relevant pamphlets beforehand. Take it seriously, but don't imagine you need a Ph.D. in the history of maple syrup production in order to get through the questions on Canada. Most applicants are successful first time round.

Imagine the ceremony on the Big Day. It's important. But imagine what being a Canadian citizen will mean to you and your family. It's much more important. You'll want to do everything properly and in a positive spirit, so you need to be prepared. If you are working with a consultant, help when the time comes should be part of his service to you. Ask him if it is, before it is too late. Ask us, if you like, since we believe it is never too late. Not for a new life, anyway. For further information, contact:

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## Wholesale prices steady

### Industrial production up

WASHINGTON, March 16, (AP): The effect of milder-than-usual American weather on energy supplies held US wholesale prices unchanged in February, the government said today.

The fitness of the Labour Department's producer price index followed a huge 1.8 per cent jump in January.

A December cold snap had caused record increases in energy prices and large food price rises, which had propelled the overall index to the largest increase in 15 years.

Figures for the two months, taken together, represent an annualised wholesale inflation rate of 11.4 per cent. However, economists do not expect anything approaching that for the entire year.

Most anticipate prices will rise between 4 per cent and 4.5 per cent in 1990, slightly lower than the 1989 rate of 4.8 per cent.

Energy prices in February plunged 5 per cent after soaring 13.6 per cent in January.

The effect of the weather showed up most strongly in fuel oil prices, which rocketed 25.3 per cent in January and plummeted 30.2 per cent in February. They were the biggest increase and decrease since the department began tracking that price in 1973.

Gasoline prices fell 2.3 per cent last month after rising 16.7 per cent in January. Natural gas prices edged up 0.1 per cent after jumping 3.2 per cent in the previous month.

US industrial production, pulled down in January by a cutback in automobile output and utility use, bounced back 0.6 per cent in February with the return of auto workers, the government said today.

The Federal Reserve said February's advance followed a revised 1.0 per cent drop in January's output and 0.1 per cent gain in December. January's output originally was reported to have fallen 1.2 per cent.

## THE INDIAN SCHOOL — KUWAIT

Applications are invited for the following posts for the academic year commencing 7th April 1990.

1. Teachers in Physics, Maths, Commerce, Political Science, Economics for the Senior Secondary level. Trained post-graduates with 7 years' teaching experience.
- 2.a) Teachers in Hindi, Physics, Maths, Social Studies, English for the Secondary level. Trained graduates with 5 years' teaching experience.
- b) Teachers for Computer Science — Graduate/Post Graduate degree in Computer Science with 2 to 3 years' teaching experience at School level.
3. Nurse — Qualified and experienced nurse with licence issued by the Ministry of Health, Kuwait.
4. Typing Instructors — Graduates with recognised Diploma in Typing and teaching experience at Secondary and Senior Secondary levels.
5. Art & Craft teachers for Primary/Intermediate classes. Graduates with degree/diploma from recognised institution with 2 years' teaching experience at Primary/Pre-primary levels or 5 years experience at intermediate levels.

Applications along with a passport copy, copies of educational qualifications and experience certificates should reach The Director, The Indian School, P.O. Box 5969, 13060 Safat, Kuwait on or before 21-3-1990.

Only Candidates with transferrable visa need apply on the prescribed forms available at the office of the Director.

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Timings: 9.30 am - 12.30 noon & 4.00 - 8.00 pm



## Fuel oil costs could rise, says Kuwait

LONDON, March 16, (Kuna): Kuwait has warned the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) in London that attempts to tackle pollution from ships by lowering the sulphur content of marine fuel oils could lead to substantial price increases being passed on to shipowners.

The specialist newspaper Lloyd's List reported today that the warning came in a submission under consideration at the IMO's marine environment protection committee meeting in London this week.

Kuwait says that fuel oil costs could increase by as much as \$20 a tonne if sulphur levels were to be reduced from the current limit of about four per cent of weight to 1 per cent of weight.

These figures are based on a study carried out in Kuwait on the cost of cutting sulphur levels at refinery level, the paper noted.

Kuwait added that a requirement to reduce sulphur levels would cause technical difficulties for producers of high sulphur crudes in the developing world.

It pointed out that most refineries producing marine fuel oils have limited desulphurisation capacity and are therefore "producing fuel oils at the maximum allowable sulphur specification limits."

Meanwhile, a Norwegian submission to the meeting estimated that ships in international trades are responsible for sulphur dioxide emissions of between 4.5 and 6.5 million tonnes a year.

Emissions over open seas are dispersed and the effects are "moderate," but they contribute significantly to environmental problems along certain routes, Norway said.

These include the Arabian Gulf, the Red Sea, the South China Sea, the English Channel and the Strait of Gibraltar.

And they have decided to make the problem a priority item at their next meeting in London between Nov 12 and 16, he said.

## Cabinet proposes record budget

TAIPEI, Taiwan, March 16, (AP): Taiwan's cabinet today proposed a record budget of \$46.6 billion Taiwan dollars (\$32.6 billion) for government expenditures in the 1990 fiscal year.

The proposed budget for the new fiscal year, which begins July 1, is 22.2 per cent higher than this year's budget, which was the previous record high.

The proposed budget was submitted to the lawmaking legislature Yuan, which is expected to review the request next month.

Defence spending accounted for 27.6 per cent, or 23.4 billion Taiwan dollars (\$9 billion), of the proposed budget, the highest individual item.

The defence requests are 8.7 per cent higher than those in the previous budget, officials said.

About 18.7 per cent of the requested budget are earmarked for social welfare, 18 per cent for economic development and 15 per cent for science, education and culture.

Officials said the government's major revenues will come from taxes and monopoly profits, projected at 53.8 billion Taiwan dollars (\$20.6 billion).

The revenues are expected to show a deficit of 177.2 billion Taiwan dollars (\$6.8 billion), which will be covered by the issuance of government bonds, officials said.

## Currency rates

KUWAIT, March 16, (Kuna): Following are the average K.D. interest rates as quoted by local banks and announced by the Central Bank of Kuwait yesterday.

	Bid	Offer
US dollar	0.29340	0.29425
Sterling	0.47178	0.47344
DM	0.17152	0.17209
S. Fr.	0.19254	0.19322
F. Fr.	0.050752	0.050917
Li. lira	0.00023235	0.00023320
Jap. yen	0.0019249	0.0019317
Bah. din.	0.77801	0.78061
UAE Dir.	0.079869	0.080122
S. riyal	0.078219	0.078466
Q. riyal	0.080560	0.080837
O. riyal	0.76188	0.76448

## Interest rates

KUWAIT, March 16, (Kuna): Following are the average K.D. interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait yesterday.

Period	Bid	Offer
1 month	8-9/16	8-13/16
3 months	8-9/16	8-13/16
6 months	8-9/16	8-13/16
1 year	8-5/8	8-7/8

## Exchange rates

Indian rupee	17.280
Sri Lanka rupee	7.430
Pakistan rupee	13.830
Bangladesh taka	8.420
US dollar	29415
Pound sterling	47400
UAE dirham	80005
Deutsche mark	17230
Japanese yen	001934

# Investment expertise still Arabs' weak point: Hassan

ABU DHABI, March 16, (Reuters): A shortage of institutions to guide Arab investors to the best local investment opportunities is the weak point in efforts to divert more of their own capital into their economies, an Arab finance chief said yesterday.

"The weakness is in the investment sector," said Maamoun Ibrahim Hassan, director-general of the Kuwait-based inter-Arab Investment Guarantee Corporation (AIGC).

"You have to have the investment companies, and investment banks ... so

investors can assess a project well, and can judge the political risk," he said in an interview on Thursday.

Because it essentially covers political risk, the AIGC is the mirror of Arab countries' willingness to promote and guarantee investment.

The demand for much greater investment and trade flows within the Arab world is there, as reflected in increasing requests for AIGC cover to the point where a capital increase has now become necessary, he said.

"What we know is that there is a

great demand and the question of insurance and guarantees has become of focal importance. The financial surpluses are there, the question is how to move them with the right guarantees," he said.

The director-general was in Abu Dhabi for the annual meeting of the five main Arab monetary and development funds.

The AIGC extends insurance for projects in the 21 Arab League countries and also to some joint Arab-

foreign institutions as long as 50 per cent Arab capital is involved.

AIGC can extend country cover to a limit equal to its capital plus reserves. Since 1987, it has increased its underwriting capacity by extending reinsurance guarantees through Arab consortia up to 40 per cent of that amount.

AIGC current capital is \$88 million and reserves at the end of 1989 were \$4.2 million, AIGC officials said.

Arab League signatories to the AIGC constitution agree to repay whatever the AIGC pays out in com-

ensation.

Hassan said the AIGC's message to the finance ministers, who had gathered to hear the state of their economic health from the fund chiefs, was that all parts of the financial framework had to be put in place to stimulate investment.

"Money does not move by itself," he said.

Moving funds around the Arab world was still in most cases a job which only the big multinationals with their in-house expertise and strong government backing could tackle, he said.

The small-scale Arab investor, and the independent Arab business, still faces a multitude of problems.

Arab governments, beset by economic stagnation due to weak world oil prices and traditional over-reliance on the public sector, are now pressing to liberalise inter-Arab trade and capital flows.

The fast pace of economic reform and liberalisation in the outside world has acted as a further impetus, making the Arab world fear it might be left behind.

## Sheikh Sabah for Muscat

# Move to narrow gap on trade pact

KUWAIT, March 16, (Agencies): Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Jaber left here today for Muscat to take part in the joint Gulf-European committee meeting in which the foreign ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council and the European Economic Community participate.

In a statement to Kuwait News Agency on departure, Sheikh Sabah emphasised the importance of this dialogue, expressing confidence that it would advance co-operation between the two groupings and expand its horizons.

He added that this is the first time that all GCC foreign ministers take part in this dialogue with their European counterparts and called for laying down strong and effective basis for this co-operation.

Sheikh Sabah said the Euro-Gulf dialogue and the Euro-Arab dialogue are complementary and meet for the same national interest and there is no contradiction between them.

The EEC and GCC foreign ministers would discuss co-operation between the two groupings in different fields.

Gulf diplomatic sources told Kuna that every minister would deal with a specific topic and Sheikh Sabah would speak about the oil industry co-operation while Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal would speak about the commercial side.

The Bahraini Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa is planned to speak about the

economic side while Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf Bin Alwaili would tackle political co-operation.

The sources emphasised the seriousness of the two sides and the important results that are expected from this dialogue.

Sheikh Sabah is accompanied by a delegation that groups director of his office Abdullah Saud Al Abdul Razak, director of the GCC and Arab Gulf states department Khaled Al Jarallah, Kuwaiti Ambassador in Brussels Ahmed Al Ibrahim, Kuwaiti Ambassador to Oman Abdul Wahab Al Adami and the finance assistant undersecretary Mustafa Al Shimali.

Sheikh Sabah was seen off on departure by Foreign Undersecretary Suleiman Majed Al Shaheen and other officials.

Foreign ministers will meet in Oman tomorrow to try to narrow disagreements on trade policy.

Senior officials from both sides said they had preparatory meetings today to try to ensure that there would be some common ground before the ministers faced each other.

The GCC states of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Bahrain and Qatar are disappointed at the EEC's initial proposals for a free trade pact.

GCC officials have reacted angrily to what they see as EEC attempts to continue to block imports of the major GCC products — petrochemicals and aluminium — with stiff quotas and tariffs.

GCC secretary-general Abdullah Bishara set the general tone of relations on March 7 with a blistering speech against the EEC at a financial conference in Bahrain.

"I have very little optimism that a fair and equitable agreement can be reached," he said.

However, the GCC admits that trade negotiations with the EEC will be difficult unless it puts its own house in order by agreeing on a unified internal customs pact.

"Without a unified policy on customs tariffs, any dialogue between the EEC and GCC will not achieve results," Bahrain Industry Ministry Youssef Shirawi said last November.

That agreement however, was put off for another three years last December at the annual summit of GCC leaders.

GCC states are allowed to set higher internal tariffs to help them protect some of their developing industries.

The EEC does not want free access for GCC petrochemicals because it fears these oil-producing states could quickly flood the market.

But the GCC is a major market for the community, which had a \$4.4 billion trade surplus with the GCC in 1989.

This week, Shirawi suggested that the GCC could use its crude oil as a bargaining chip in the tariffs dispute. The EEC imports 34 per cent of its oil, or three million barrels per day, from the GCC.

Not all the EEC foreign ministers will attend but Western diplomats said the British, French and Irish ministers would definitely take part.

## India introduces new trains

# Railway fares to be hiked

By Thomas Abraham

Arab Times correspondent

NEW DELHI, Mar 16: Travel and movement of freight by rail in India will become significantly costlier when the proposals made by Railway Minister George Fernandes in his maiden budget presented to parliament come into effect.

Fernandes, aiming to keep the second largest railway system in the world on the track of modernisation and technological upgradation as also maintain its financial viability, has proposed an increase of 17 per cent in the fares for the air-conditioned and first classes of travel.

Freight rates except for certain essential commodities are proposed to be hiked by ten per cent along with parcel and luggage rates. Increases have also been proposed in second class of travel, in sleeper charges and the prices of platform tickets.

The new imposts are estimated to fetch the railways an additional Rs 892 crores and the undertaking is expected to close the financial year 1990-91 with a surplus of Rs186 crores. The railways are expected to have a surplus of Rs 140 crores as budgeted for 1989-90, Fernandes said.

The railway propose to pay a dividend of Rs 932 crores to the general exchequer in 1990-91.

While the increase in freight and parcel and luggage rates will be effective from April 1, the change in the passenger fares will become operational from May 1, Fernandes said.

The minister said the railways will have an outlay of Rs5,000 crores in 1990-91 against Rs4,450 crores this

year. But the budgetary support to the railways will be only 28.4 per cent next year, the lowest ever in its history.

Fernandes announced the introduction of 12 new trains from this summer. These are: Surat-Varanasi bi-weekly express, Jammu Tawi-Nizamuddin — Mangalore — Tiruchirappalli weekly express, Gorakhpur — Howrah weekly express, Hatia — Varanasi bi-weekly express, Jammu Tawi — Guwahati weekly express, Gorakhpur-Gonda express, Kanhar-Siliguri inter-city express, Erva Road — Bilaspur passenger train, Jaisalmer — Bikaner-Bikaner shuttle, Bombay — Muzaffarpur weekly express, Sahibganj, Rampurhat passenger and Chopan-Dhabad weekly express.

Besides, the frequency of four trains has been increased and the runs of seven trains extended.

In a major decision, the railways have decided that all new coaches from now onwards will be either second class or air-conditioned ones, indicating that first class coaches would be phased out to achieve a certain level of regularisation.

By the end of 1990-91, nearly 66 per cent of all train reservations on the Indian Railways would be computerised. Initially introduced in the four metros, the facility has already been provided in five more cities — Ahmedabad, Secunderabad, Bangalore, Bhopal and Lucknow. Nine more important stations — Pune, Jammu Tawi, Patna, Guwahati, Gorakhpur, Jaipur, Tiruvandrum, Bhubaneswar and Cuttack —

would have computerised reservation facilities by end of 1990-91, the minister said.

A major announcement was the inclusion of the West Coast Line — a long felt need — from Mangalore to Roha has been included in the budget. Fernandes said a separate authority would be set up to complete the project expeditiously. The project is expected to cost Rs 969 crores at current prices. The railways are examining the possibility of associating the Government of Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka and Kerala in the financing of the project.

When completed, the line will reduce the distance between Bombay and Bangalore by more than a thousand kilometres and provide a big boost to the economic development of the area.

Railway Board chairman M.N. Prasad told reporters that the increase in freight rates would have only a minimal effect on prices.

A little before Fernandes presented the railway budget — the first since the new government took over — the government also announced a hike in telecommunication rates.

The proposals include reduction in the number of free calls allowed to telephone subscribers from 275 in two months to 150, and a hike in the rates per call in excess of 1,000 calls.

Operator-assisted trunk calls and tele calls will also be more expensive. Some concessions were announced for rural areas and the press.

These measures are expected to raise Rs500 crores in a year for the expansion and modernisation of the telecommunication sector.

## Some economic signs worry me: Bush

WASHINGTON, March 16, (AP): President George Bush says he remains generally optimistic about the US economy, but there are some signs "that worry me."

Among other problems, the nation's bulging deficit is making it impossible to give countries in Eastern Europe and Central America the aid they deserve, Bush said.

"I sometimes wish as president that there were more funds readily available — read that less of a deficit," he told a group of newspaper executives on Thursday.

"There's a great deal that we have to do to keep this expansion going," Bush said. "The economy at this moment isn't as robust as I'd like to see it."

He asserted that congressional approval of his proposals for a lower capital gains tax and educational reforms would help make the nation more competitive abroad.

"If we're successful, then we're going to have not a peace dividend but a growth dividend," Bush told members of the National Newspaper Association.

The President rejected the notion that the United States was in decline.

"We still have the highest standard of living in the world," he said ... so I am not that pessimistic, and yet I don't want to stand here with some Pollyannish attitude about the economy. There are some signs that worry me."

national product slumped to an anemic 0.9 per cent in the final three months of 1989 and many economists also are projecting a slow first quarter of 1990. US manufacturing has been in the doldrums for months.

Appearing before the congressional joint economic committee on Thursday, White House Budget Director Richard Darman said the economy's poor performance in the final quarter of 1989 would add \$6.2 billion to the projected budget deficit for next year.

Before the new economic performance figures became available, the administration had estimated that the shortfall for fiscal 1991 — which begins next Oct 1 — would be \$100.5 billion.

Bush, in a speech earlier Thursday to the National Association of Manufacturers, said: "Our economy is not perfect and I don't want to paint an unrealistic picture."

But he added that democratic upheavals in the world present the opportunity for US companies to capture new markets. Political changes in Eastern Europe and Central America "mark the triumph not only of free ideas but also of free markets," he said.

Bush expressed opposition to suggestions that US aid be cut to Israel and Egypt to make money available for countries in Eastern Europe. "I don't want to suggest cutting to good friends," the President said.

## Japan, US 'must protect world trade'

TOKYO, March 16, (AP): US Secretary of Commerce Robert Mosbacher urged Japan Thursday to act in a global partnership with the United States to buoy the world trading system by eliminating trade barriers.

"If we do not act soon, we may throw away our last chance to save the world trading system from serious damage," Mosbacher told reporters at the Japan National Press Club.

Mosbacher is in Tokyo at the request of President George Bush as a follow-up to Bush's meeting with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu in Palm Springs, California, earlier this month.

The two countries are negotiating greater market access in Japan for US satellites, lumber and supercomputers, and for the elimination of structural barriers to balanced trade in both nations.

Local news reports said Kaifu held an emergency meeting late Wednesday with three key cabinet ministers and set a weekend deadline for detailed measures for removing structural trade barriers.

Mosbacher said he was disappointed that satellite negotiations ended in Washington Tuesday without significant progress. "It is critical that we resolve this," he said.

The United States, a world leader in satellite technology, wants Japan to buy US satellites while Japan says it wants to nurture its fledgling industry.

"It's hard to believe this great nation, which produces so many goods so well, has to protect an infant industry," Mosbacher said.

In addition to opening the doors wider to specific products, the United States is urging structural economic reforms in Japan, such as deregulation of its distribution system, reduction of land prices and an increase in public works spending.

The United States, as part of an eight-point agenda for competitiveness, has pledged to boost research and development funds, reform education, reduce its budget deficit, and reform anti-trust and product



US Commerce Secretary Robert Mosbacher (left) smiles with Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu at the start of a meeting at the Premier's official residence on Thursday. Kaifu said he was determined to solve trade problems between Japan and the US and that he would make appropriate judgements for the success of ongoing structural trade talks. (Reuters wirephoto)

liability regulations.

Dubbing this a "crucial moment" in our economic relations," Mosbacher said there was a growing sense of urgency in the ongoing trade talks.

While noting progress in the shrinking of US trade deficits with other countries and in reducing the US budget deficit, Mosbacher said "Japan's overall trade surplus with America — and the world — has


achieved a semi-permanent status."

Japan's trade surplus with the United States was \$49 billion in 1989.

Before Mosbacher leaves today for Washington, the Commerce Secretary is to host a meeting of five major Japanese semiconductor users to encourage them to increase their purchases of US computer chips. US makers have a 12.9 per cent share of

the Japanese market, but are aiming at 20 per cent of the market.

During his four-day visit to Tokyo, Mosbacher also met with Kaifu, Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, Trade Minister Katsuo Miyoshi and officials of the country's top business group, the Federation of Economic Organisations (Keidanren).



## CENTRAL BANK OF KUWAIT

### ANNOUNCEMENT

**For Subscription in Treasury Bills**  
**Authorised by Decree Law No. ( 50 ) of 1987**

CENTRAL BANK OF KUWAIT, on behalf of the Ministry of Finance of the State of Kuwait, hereby announces the offering of TREASURY BEARER BILLS in Kuwaiti Dinar for SUBSCRIPTION, distributed over the following denominations:

KD 50 000, KD 250 000, KD 500 000

in compliance with the Rules and Regulations mentioned below:

1.	Description	Issue No. ( 102 )	Issue No. ( 103 )
<b>Amount of Issue:</b>		KD 125 million	KD 50 million
<b>Issue Date :</b>		21/3/1990	21/3/1990
<b>Due Date :</b>		20/6/1990	19/9/1990
<b>Offering Period:</b>		From : Saturday 17/3/1990	17/3/1990
		To : Tuesday 20/3/1990	20/3/1990
<b>Allotment:</b>		21/3/1990	21/3/1990

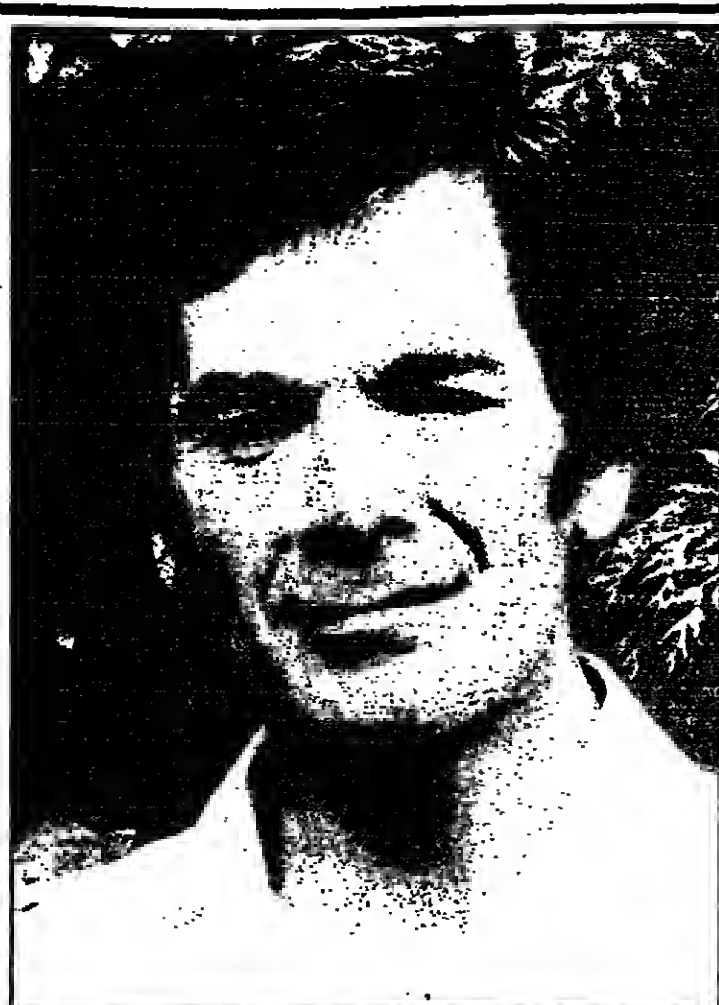
2. Delivery of Bills: After one week following the date of submitting the application.

3. The Provisions of these Issues shall be subject to the Rules and Conditions stipulated in the Announcement for Subscription in Issue No. (1) for Treasury Bills, published in the Local Newspapers of Saturday, November 21, 1987 and in the Official Gazette (Kuwait Al-Yaum) No.1746 issued Sunday, November 22, 1987.





Elizabeth Bell as Lady Macbeth.



Frank Barrie as Macbeth.

## Macbeth to be performed in Kuwait

THE London Shakespeare Group returns to Kuwait to present the best known Shakespeare play, Macbeth, next week.

The group, which presented Twelfth Night in Kuwait two years ago, is currently on a three-week tour of the Gulf.

Macbeth, described as a play with the "densest and most dramatic impact" was first performed in Japan in 1984. This year's production has been directed by Delena Kidd. They promise to create the maximum visual impact with stunning Jacobean costumes and a simple set.

Macbeth is played by Frank Barrie whose predominantly classical career, including several seasons at the National Theatre with the late Lord Olivier, has encompassed Hamlet, Lear, Romeo and Coriolanus amongst many other Shakespearean roles. Barrie's own one man show MacCready, based on the life of the Victorian Actor, has played in New York, London and 26 other countries. He has just completed the film of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde with Michael Caine.

Elizabeth Bell, who plays Lady Macbeth,

has appeared in numerous TV programmes including the Diary of Anne Frank. She spent several seasons in Stoke, Sheffield, Harrogate, Liverpool and Birmingham. In London, she played Yelena in Uncle Vanya, Thelma in Pack of Lies, Charlotte in The Real Thing and the title role in The Daughter-in-law. She has also played some seasons in the National Theatre, most recently as Anita in A Small Family Business and Beatrice in A View from the Bridge.

The name London Shakespeare Group was first used by the British Council in 1968 when Ken-ichi Watanabe of the Tokyo Shimbun newspaper invited four actors to tour Japanese universities.

In 1976, the British Council invited John Fraser, Delena Kidd and Gary Raymond to form a company of eight, taking over the title, London Shakespeare Group, to tour East Africa with a production of Romeo and Juliet. This company proved to be so successful that the group, joined by many excellent actors, has now completed 30 tours to 50

countries, including seven return visits to Japan adding productions of The Merchant of Venice, Twelfth Night, Macbeth, Hamlet, Four Love — and anthology — and Pinter's Betrayal.

In 1985, John Fraser, Delena Kidd and Gary Raymond took over full management of the group, becoming a limited company with charitable status. They continue to undertake tours for the British Council but have expanded their scope to include performances world-wide.

The group's productions are adapted for eight actors and each plays for about two hours. Their plays have played in venues ranging from 2000-seat, fully-equipped theatres to small school halls lit by daylight. This adaptability is central to the group's work.

In Kuwait, they will perform at the Kuwait English School, Surra, at 8 pm on March 21 and 22 and at 6 pm on March 23. Their Kuwait tour has been sponsored by British Airways, British Council and Mahmood Al Ghanim.

## TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

### KTV 1

#### MORNING PERIOD

9.30 Opening and Holy Quran

9.40 Sabah Al Kher. News

9.50 Cartoon serial

10.15 Magazine D'Actualite (repetition)

11.25 Wadan Zaman Al Sami: Arabic serial (part 10)

12.25 News summary

12.30 Holy Quran and Closedown

#### EVENING PERIOD

4.00 The Opening and Holy Quran

4.15 The World Today via Satellite (repetition)

4.45 Saham Al Fadh: cartoon serial

5.15 The Young Artist: local children programme

6.00 Wa Qalal Al Arsh: historical serial

7.15 Noor Al Islam: religious programme

7.45 Cultural programme

8.00 Security and citizens: local programme

8.30 Good Evening and Local News

9.00 News in Arabic

9.45 Daerat Al Ahdath: local programme

10.15 Lil Adala Wajh Akhar: Arabic serial (Part 4)

11.00 Thaib Al Nashama: Weekly Bedouin serial, starring Ghanem Al Saleh, Ali Al Mufeedi and Rouhi Al Safadi.

12.00 News Summary

12.05 The World Today via Satellite

12.30 Holy Quran and Closedown

### KTV 2

6.00 Opening Announcement & Holy Quran

8.00 News in English

8.30 Buck James. Will

6.10 The Adventures of Raggedy and Andy. A cartoon series for children

6.30 Orphans of the Wild. A look at families of kangaroos, monkeys, tigers, elephants and eagles in a zoo.

7.00 Not Another Science Show. "Heavy Metal." A look at elements composing magnetised materials and components of heavy metals such as iron and steel.

7.30 Hogan Family. "Poetic Injustice." Mrs. Paul the Hogan's neighbour leaves her pet dog under their care. Their house is turned upside-down.

8.00 News in English

8.30 Buck James. Will

"Buck" agree on transplanting the heart of unconscious child to another child?

9.30 Japan. "The Sword and the Chrysanthemum. A look at the Samurai, the class of warriors in Japan, their traditions, way of life and their effect of brutality shown by the Japanese soldiers during World War II.

10.30 Feature film. "Street Dreams." Starring: Ben Masters, Morgan Fairchild. Paul is murdered and his wife, Laura, disappears after a film script is lost. The private eye "Kid" has to find Laura and decide who is the real criminal.

12.00 News in Brief

12.15 Magazine D'Actualite

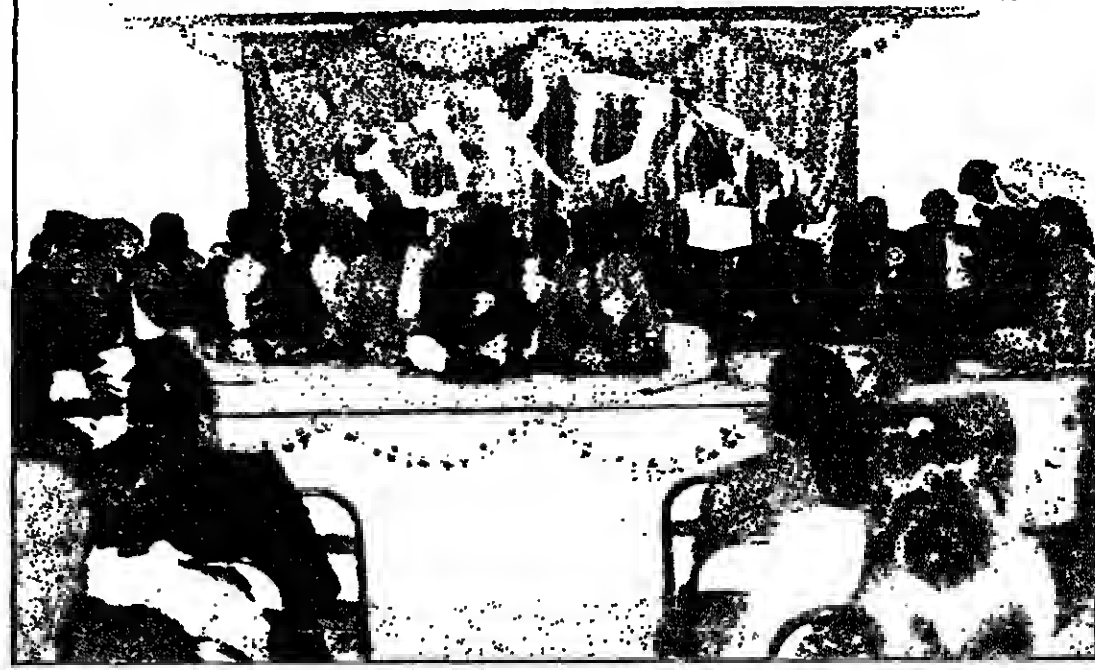
## CINEMA

Al Andalus  
Arabic film  
Al Samiya  
D.O.A.  
Al Hamra  
Arabic film  
Drive-In  
North Shore  
Al Firdous  
Kanoon Apna Apna  
Fahabeh Open  
Mera Farz  
Fahabeh  
Swagatham  
Al Jahre  
Dance Music  
Granada  
Malone  
Sulabikhat  
Arabic film  
Jeeb  
Peruvannapurathe Viseshan  
Ahmadi Drive-In  
Iron Master

## PRAYERS

Fajr 4.37 am  
Zohr 11.57  
Asr 3.22 pm  
Maghreb 5.58  
Isha 7.14

## KAVI-SAMMELAN & MUSHAIRA



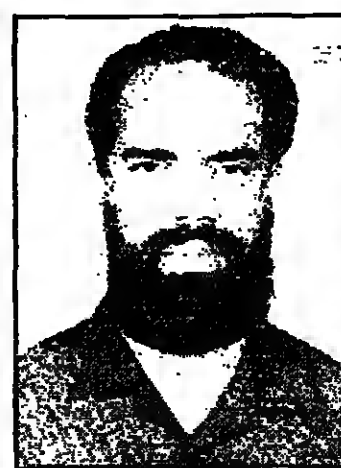
## UPKAAR presents first Kavi Sammelan & Mushaira

UPKAAR presented its first Kavi Sammelan & Mushaira of local Indian poets at the Indian Embassy Hall on 2nd March 1990. Almost all the prominent poets in Kuwait participated with full enthusiasm. The programme started with a welcome speech by the convener Mohammad Ziauddin, who also outlined the objectives of UPKAAR viz., to promote various cultural and artistic activities. The Mushaira was ably compered by eminent poets Niaz Benarasi. The poets who regaled the audience with Hindi, Urdu and Punjabi poems included Adil Mansoor Bahadurgarhi, Munawwar Kanpuri, Khalish Hyderabad, Elias Qamar Fatehpuri, Anjum Kalimi, Shashi Mahendra, Naseem Akbarabadi, Naaz Fatehpuri, Ambar Fatehpuri, Shahzad Azmi, Raaz Fatehpuri, Mahshar Afghani, Khokar, Dr. Palvinder Singh, Gurbaksh Singh Dogra, Shahjahan Jaziri Hlib, Tahzib Nirmal, Abdulla Sajid, J.S. Arora, Khalil-ur-Rahman Chishti, Hafiz Sikri, Jasbir Singh Dhimani, Noor Parkar, Shahid Rattami, Niaz Benarasi and Abdul Hamid Hosh.

The standard of the poems was very high and very well applauded by the audience. At the end UPKAAR president G.K. Saxana who also presided over the Mushaira thanked the poets and the guests for making the event, a great success. Despite impending school examinations the attendance was high and C.M. Sahni kept the atmosphere warm by providing hot Lipton tea throughout.



Hashim



Hamza



Savan Kutty

## Reception programme

A reception programme was arranged on Friday the 16th March at the Teachers Union Hall, Dasma in honour of T.M. Savan Kutty president Muslim Sarvise Society, Kerala and former chairman, Kerala State Public Service Commission, C.P. Hashim Treasurer, Muslim Sarvise Society and P.G. Hamza, former president, Students Islamic Organisation of India who are on a short visit to Kuwait. The programme has been arranged by Kerala Islamic Group, Kuwait.

prepare Indonesian specialties in front of you.

JAZZ NIGHT: Every Thursday at La Brasserie — Enjoy New Orleans atmosphere with jazz and seafood specialties.

ORIENTAL BUFFET LUNCH: Every Friday at La Brasserie — Enjoy a typical Oriental buffet lunch with Oriental organist.

INDONESIAN CORNER: Every Wednesday at La Brasserie — Enjoy Indonesian cuisine in addition to our daily lavish buffet. Our chef will

## SPORTS

### Daniella Bowling

ALL Danes are invited to participate in the first ever Daniella Bowling Tournament on April 5, 1990, at 6 pm. For further information and registration please call Connie. Tel: 3715637 or Marianne. Tel: 3720137 before March 26.

● All entries for the What's On Column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursdays, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

## WHAT'S ON

### ARTS

#### Watercolours of Arabia

Recent watercolours by Patricia Mills on exhibition at the studio, the Tareq Rajab Museum, Jabriya, Saturday thru Thursday 9.30 to 12 and 4.30 to 8 pm, from March 6 to 20, 1990. Tel: 5315397; or 5318060.

#### SAS Hotel

EXHIBITION of water colour and oil paintings as well as stained glass at the lobby until March 20.

#### Sultan Gallery

INDIAN artist Shamima Farid is showing a collection of her latest works at the Sultan Gallery, near Rolls Royce showroom. A wide selection of subjects are featured in the paintings of the artist, who has exhibited widely in Kuwait and overseas. However, this is Shamima's first solo-exhibition in Kuwait. Open daily from 9 am to 1 pm and 4 to 8 pm.

### SOCIAL

#### Holi — Festival of Colours

THE IAC is celebrating the festival of colours to commemorate the coming of Spring on Thurs 22nd March at Fun-a-tees with a suitable programme. Members and their guests are requested to contact the IAC office (3904817), Sharma (2644863), Raman (3903879), Mathews (4433329), Srivastava (4898162) or Munshi (2423740) for details and passes. Because of limitations, passes are available on first-come-first-serve basis.

#### Kuwait Little Theatre

KUWAIT Little Theatre presents "Oh Clarence", a comedy by John Chapman, adapted from the books of P.G. Wodehouse. Gala Night is on March 19, 1990, at 7.30 pm with other performances on March 20, 21 and 22 at 8.00 pm. Tickets can be booked by phoning 3919759.

#### Contact

The next meeting of Contact, the ladies information group, will be held at Messilah Beach Hotel, 10 am, on Saturday, March 17. Newcomers particularly welcome. For further details tel. 3720197; 4874513; 5388105.

#### Ladies International League of Kuwait upcoming events

L.I.L. Desert Picnic on Friday, March 23, 1990. Members and their guests. For further information and tickets please contact Barbara on 5325131. Deadline for tickets is March 17.

#### Badelek Picnic

Bangladesh Diplomatic Engineers' Society in "Kuwait (Badesik) has organised its annual picnic to be held in Mangal family beach on March 23. The events included the prize distribution of recently completed indoor games and the children sports to be played on the spot. Bangladesh Ambassador to Kuwait K.M. Shehabuddin will be the chief guest.

All Badesik member's are requested to contact general secretary Khalilur Rahman on tele 4330025 for more details.

#### British Council

Children's Books of the Year 1989 Exhibition: March 10-22 at the gallery. An exhibition of award-winning British published books arranged by The British Council in association with the Kuwait Bookshops Co. Ltd. Orders of books on display may be ordered through the Kuwait Bookshops which will also offer other British-published books at special prices.

Please book seats by calling 2515512, 2533204, 2533227.

#### Shakespeare's Macbeth

THE London Shakespeare Group, who have already received rave reviews for their performance of Macbeth in Bahrain, Doha, Muscat and the Emirates, will perform at the Kuwait English School, Salwa on March 21 and 22, 1990 at 8 pm and on March 23, 1990, at 6 pm. The cast includes professional actors and actresses with classical backgrounds, who have appeared at the London's prestigious National Theatre, various West End theatres, television and radio. All seats are numbered, and can be reserved by ringing 5740256/7, 5625316, 5718143 or 5731782.

#### Summer Affair '90

THE Weekend Club will host their traditional "Summer Affair" on the first day of Eid Al Fitr (April 26) at the Regency Palace Hotel. Watch or participate in the selection and crowning of the 1990 Summer Queen, join in a Jive Contest, watch a scintillating display of "Lambada" or simply let your feet loose to the music of Top Ranks and Perfect Strangers. Gala buffet, loads of prizes and most important have a good time. For reservations call 4315425 (Julio), 5741380 or 4890566.

#### Daniella Desert Rally

The annual family rally for Danes will take place on Friday, March 23. For registration, please call Henrik — Tel: 3727688/92 ext. 246

#### "Drama"

"BANDHAN" Nattya Chakra, a Bengali Drama Group, is going to perform its third stage show a Bengali Drama by the name "Boudir Beey" on 22nd March Thursday 1990 at 5 pm in the Starlight Theatre hall of Doha Entertainment City, Kuwait.

The Ambassador of Bangladesh in Kuwait, K.M. Shehabuddin will be the chief guests.

For entry cards, please contact the following persons: Abdur Rah, tel: 4316823, Jasim Uddin, tel: 2420484, Video A to Z, tel: 3924320.

#### Bangladesh get-together

A NUMBER of Bangladeshi families will hold a spring get-together at the Rawda Park, Damascus Street on March 23.

The day-long programme, which starts at 9 am, will include children's games, ladies and gents games and bingo. For details, contact telephone 3725312, 4315352, 4715734, or 3713923.

#### Konkani non-stop show

A Konkani non-stop show entitled Kottani Ani Sontos (Hardships & Happiness), written and directed by Epa de Utorda, organised by Utorda Lourdes Boys will be staged on July 6, 1990 at 3.30 pm. Venue: Labour Union Hall, Maidan Hawalli.

For more information contact 4817857.

#### APPROB

ASSOCIATION of Pakistani Professionals and Businessmen (Approb) is holding a seminar to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of Pakistan Resolution. Javed Iqbal, the son of the renowned Muslim philosopher and poet, Allama Mohammad Iqbal and a retired justice of Pakistan Supreme Court will preside over the seminar at Sheraton Hotel on March 25th.

Dr. Iqbal will read a research paper on "The struggle to obtain a separate Muslim homeland between Allama Iqbal's Allahabad address of 1930 and the Resolution of Pakistan in 1940." Mrs. Iqbal, a law graduate from the Harvard University and law professor at the University of Punjab, will speak on "The role of Muslim women in society as envisaged by Jinnah and Iqbal." A number of research papers on the Pakistan movement and the ideology of Pakistan will also be read at the seminar to be attended by diplomats and prominent personalities.

Approb will also hold an evening with Dr Iqbal and his wife on March 24th at the

residence of Iqbal Latif to acquaint Pakistani children in Kuwait about the ideology of Pakistan. Dr Iqbal will meet the Pakistani community at the Pakistan embassy on March 26. For further details, contact Approb: 2425315 Fax: 5323751.

#### Rose Fern's drama

MAY 10-11: Expatriates Club proudly announces that Goa's celebrated king of century shows Rose Ferns, and his sixteen member troupe, will present his premier release in Kuwait "Xitem" (Broken glass) and drama "Beiman Tum" which has already crossed the hundred plus mark in Goa. More details later.

Photography classes by Anne Eid beginning Saturday, March 17, in Surra. Call: Anne - 2426135.

## HOTELS

### Le Meridien

AL WAHA Cafe features Crepe Festival until 22nd March. Crepes (thin pancakes) are prepared in front of the guest at a special counter. Choice of dessert fillings include fruit salad with cream custard and strawberry sauce, sliced fruit with orange sauce, strawberry with whipped cream, melba sauce and almond, and sliced banana with chocolate sauce. Choice of topping include chocolate, honey, jam or marmalade, maple syrup and chantilly cream.

Al Fingan Tea Lounge will feature Bananarama Festival from 18th until 22nd March. One can have a variety of choices of mouthwatering banana sweets such as banana fritters with honey, banana tarte, banana tartelletes, chocolate banana and banana charlotte. Special banana drinks include banana milk shake and banana strawberry cocktail. One can also enjoy our special banana split ice cream.

### Messilah Beach Hotel

Messilah Beach Hotel is promoting an evening of seafood specialties every Wednesday evening at 7 pm in Al Mubarakiah Restaurant. All your favourite dishes from the Gulf. Selected items prepared to your liking in the relaxed atmosphere decorated with that maritime touch with live background music.

### Bits n' Pieces

An interesting 8 week course in patchwork and quilting techniques. For details contact Tel. 5634663.



BLONDIE — By Dean Young & Stan Drake



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE — By Dick Browne



AGATHA CRUMM — By Billings



BEETLE BAILEY — By Mort Walker



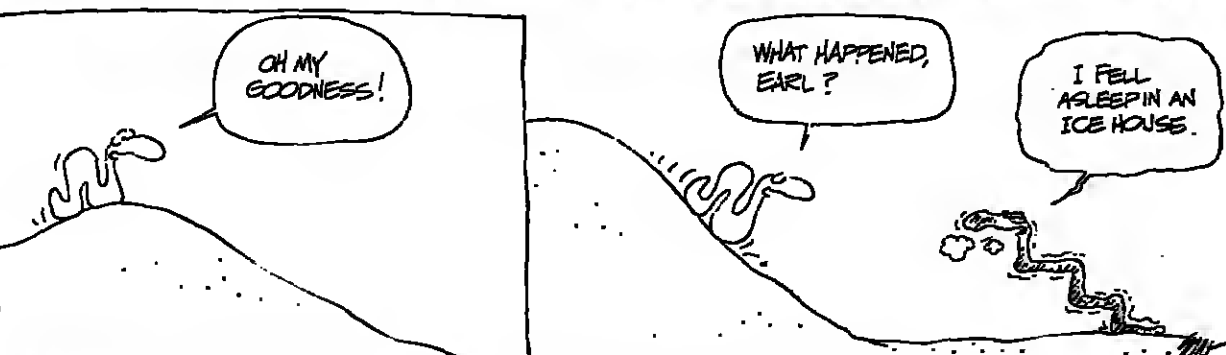
THE WIZARD OF ID — By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



ANDY CAPP



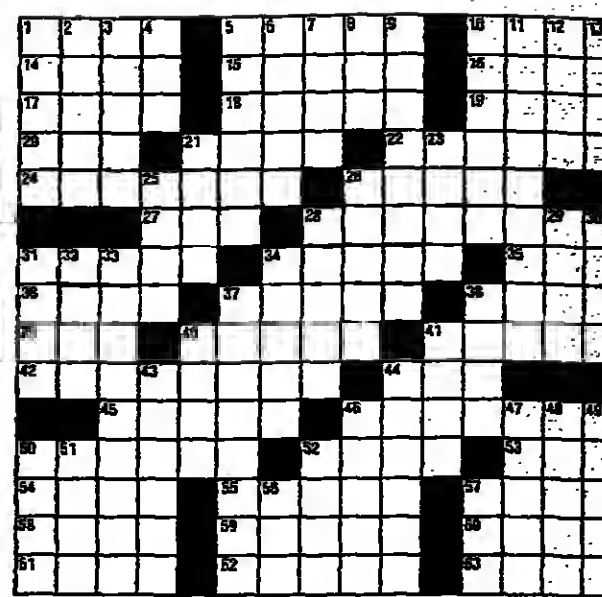
B.C. — By Johnny Hart



HE-MAN — By G. Fagan & J. Shull



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS  
1. Search high and low  
5. Noah's oldest son  
10. Loser of a febrile race  
15. More unfavorable  
16. Menner  
17. Notion, in Nantes  
18. Soviet Workers' org.  
19. Part of a monogram, for short  
20. More than pleasantly plump  
21. Storm centers  
22. Distributes  
24. Stewed  
26. Range rover  
27. Mount — Texas peak  
28. April item  
31. Emit  
34. Zoo's powerful veggie eater  
35. Cheese, in  
36. Mackinac, e.g.  
37. In the act of  
38. Jazz great  
39. Coastal denizen  
40. Mock blow  
41. Saintry symbol  
42. Sheinwold play  
44. Destroy, in a way  
45. Greek isle  
46. Harassed  
50. Sail stiffener  
52. Famed researcher  
53. Eden resident  
54. Woodwind  
55. Renter ineffective
- DOWN  
1. Strike out  
2. Speed trap device  
3. Mountain spine  
4. — Wee Reese  
5. Wavered  
6. Removed the center  
7. Table scraps  
8. Put into service  
9. Giving an account of  
10. Showed pleasure  
11. Student roster  
12. Revise  
13. Queens' team  
21. French 1 verb  
23. Carson stand-in  
25. Track figure  
26. New Orleans athlete  
28. Lorelei's river  
29. Christianity, today  
30. Concerned parents' gps.  
31. Cake topper  
32. Ticked off  
33. Mohave phenomenon  
34. Upsets  
37. Urbane  
38. Roadside sign  
40. Do a slow burn  
41. Ear covering  
43. Westerns  
44. Irritated  
45. — couture  
47. Rent  
48. Lu-Pone  
49. Removes, in printing  
50. Those two  
51. "Busy as —"  
52. Catch  
58. New Deal org.  
59. Delight

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:  
GRACE FIEND IBIIS  
REAL ARDOR RAISE  
BARB CABBIE OLLA  
PLAY IT AGAIN SAM  
COLE DREAMY  
UNDONE INFER  
REAR BRAIN AND  
GAMESPEOPLEPLAY  
ETE CRANE RAMA  
KRONE LOISED  
SCREAM WING  
PLAYMISTYFORME  
REIN SMOLT ELBA  
ERSE EERIE SLAP  
EKES DETER SENT

CODEN BRIDGE

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠AQ108 ♥8 ♦AQJ98 ♣Q95  
Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one heart. What action do you take?  
A.—To overcall two diamonds risks losing the spade suit. Actually, your hand is suitable for play in any of the unbid suits, including clubs, so the correct action is to make a take-out double.

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠AQ108 ♥8 ♦AQJ98 ♣Q95  
The bidding has proceeded:  
East 1♥ South 2♦ West North  
1♥ 2♦ 3♥ 1NT  
Pass ?  
What action do you take?  
A.—Partner's response is not a weak bid—it's forward-going, showing some 8-10 points. With 15 high-card points and good intermediates your hand is certainly worth a try for game and the obvious choice is to bid two diamonds. That is not forcing, but encouraging.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠AQ108 ♥8 ♦AQJ98 ♣Q95  
The bidding has proceeded:  
East 1♥ South 2♦ West North  
1♥ 2♦ 3♥ 1NT  
Pass ?  
What action do you take?  
A.—Partner was free to pass, so the raise to three diamonds should show a maximum for his original response, probably about 10 points. Since the spade finesse is surely working and partner has announced a heart stopper three no trump seems like the obvious move.

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠K ♥Q6 ♦KJ1063 ♣107652  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1♠ 2♥ 3♥ 2♠  
1♠ 2♥ 3♥ 2♠  
What action do you take?  
A.—The trouble with bidding two diamonds is that it is forcing and you won't like anything, partner does unless he can raise. Don't double—neither the hand nor the trump quality is good enough. Pass and hope partner reopens.

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠K ♥Q6 ♦KJ1063 ♣107652  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1♠ 2♥ 3♥ 2♠  
1♠ 2♥ 3♥ 2♠  
What action do you take?  
A.—Partner's double is for take-out. However, North should have a better than minimum opening for such action, so the chances for a penalty have brightened. Pass. Even if they make the contract, no great harm will have befallen you.

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠2 ♥Q65 ♦QJ96 ♣A9742  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1♠ 2♥ 3♥ 2♠  
1♠ 2♥ 3♥ 2♠  
What action do you take?  
A.—Partner could have quite a good hand on this sequence without being able to rebid any more than two clubs. With 9 points in high cards and five-card support the least you can do is raise to three clubs.



YOUR STARS

**Aries**  
March 21 - April 20

You will have something to be pleased about, but do not become self-satisfied. And avoid being supercilious too. There is nothing to be gained from being obstinate. Be as good as your word.

**Cancer**  
June 21 - July 20

Something you had been expecting to happen will, but not quite in the way you had hoped it would. You should make sure you get enough exercise as well as enough rest. Your lucky numbers are 15 and 36. Try to see things from other people's point of view too. Be kind.

**Libra**  
Sept. 21 - Oct. 22

Nothing is quite as it seems to be so do try to look beneath the surface. And do not believe that what you would like to be is. Show just a little more goodwill towards others. Be resolute.

**Capricorn**  
Dec. 21 - Jan. 19

Something you had been hoping would not happen will not. But what does happen is not quite what you hoped would. Try to avoid keeping others waiting for you and make sure you are in the right meeting place. Be trustworthy.

**Taurus**  
April 21 - May 20

You are tempted to spend more than you can afford in the hope of some good luck—don't. You will tend to run out of patience and should try not to. Make sure you are correctly dressed for the climate and occasion. Be honourable.

**Leo**  
July 21 - Aug. 21

You will be able to spend some pleasant moments in the company of good friends. If you expect too much from others you will be sorely disappointed. You should not take too much for granted now or in the future. Be pertinent.

**Scorpio**  
Oct. 21 - Nov. 22

There is a lot to do today so there is no time to sit back and watch the world go by. Do not permit yourself to be taken in by sales talk. Do not you to gossip or believe that all you hear is correct. Be more decisive.

**Aquarius**  
Jan. 20 - Feb. 19

You should not allow attention to detail to obscure the real issue. You will be able to do something to correct a mistake before it is too late. Take a little more pride in your personal appearance. Be reasonable.

**Gemini**  
May 21 - June 20

You should be more inclined to listen to what others are saying. And take what they say into account when making plans. Do not think too much of past events. Be pretentious.

**Virgo**  
Aug. 21 - Sept. 22

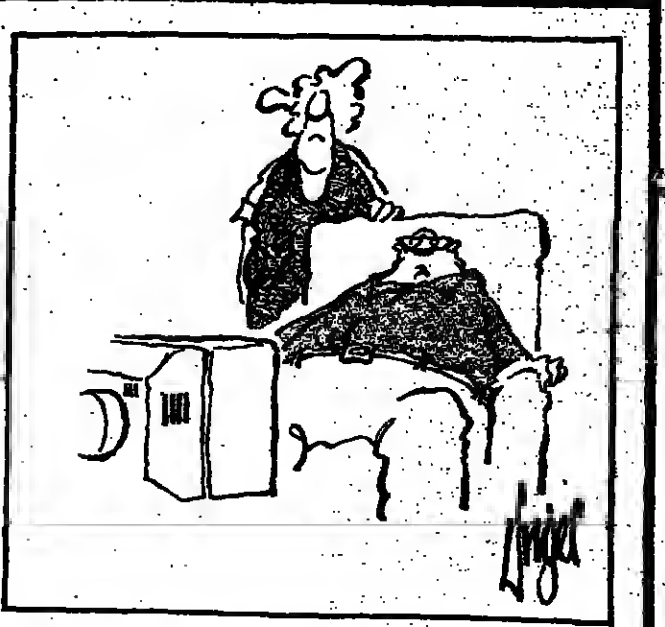
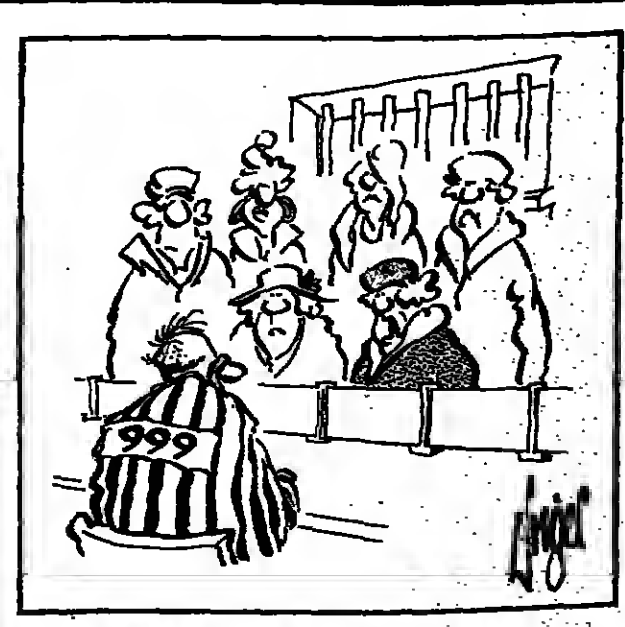
You should try to let common-sense prevail, this is no time for daydreams. You should not think that the world owes you a living. Do not lose the courage of your convictions. Be less arrogant.

**Sagittarius**  
Nov. 21 - Dec. 20

Not everything is to your liking but you will be better at adapting to those things that are not. Make sure you are not making a nuisance of yourself. Show a little sympathy towards a friend who is having a difficult time. Be methodical.

**Pisces**  
Feb. 21 - March 20

Make sure you do not spend more than you can really afford. You will have to make a few changes but you should consider them carefully first. You would do well to have a good laugh at yourself—you are being too serious. Be generous.









Border & Co. all out for 110

# Aussies tie down Kiwis

WELLINGTON, March 16, (Reuters): New Zealand batted slowly toward Australia's first innings total of 110 today on the rain-disrupted second day of a one-off cricket Test in Wellington.

The New Zealanders were 93 for three wickets at stumps after struggling against accurate Australian bowling and a slow-paced pitch that produced variable bounce.

Captain John Wright and Andrew Jones had looked set to get New Zealand close to Australia's modest first innings total of 110 for the loss of only one wicket.

However, both batsmen were out in the last 30 minutes when the score was 89, leaving the Australians a little happier after their batting collapse yesterday.

Batting was difficult after rain delayed the start of play for the second consecutive day. There appeared little likelihood of any play at all at midday as drizzle continued over the basin reserve ground.

But the skies cleared and a light afternoon breeze and sun dried the ground sufficiently to allow 44 overs to be played in one afternoon session.

The wicket, which has little grass, had dried a fraction since yesterday, when the New Zealand bowlers took advantage of its moisture.

But Australian off-spinner Peter Taylor generated noticeable turn, containing the New Zealand batsmen in a controlled spell of 17 overs in which he took one wicket for 23 runs.

He frustrated opener Trevor Franklin into driving a ball in the air to mid-on where Geoff Marsh took a brilliant diving catch.

Franklin had provided convincingly at several balls from Taylor and at times struggled against Australia's pace bowling



Danny Morrison



Richard Hadlee

trio of Terry Alderman, Carl Rackemann and Greg Campbell, all of whom got movement off the seam.

Taylor should have had a second wicket when he beat Andrew Jones as he came forward out of his crease but wicketkeeper Ian Healy dropped the ball and missed a certain stumping.

New Zealand, as if to reassure the Australians their score was not as bad as it looked, batted extremely cautiously. Their 93 runs were scored from 59 overs

13.4 more than Australia faced in scoring 110 yesterday.

Wright's innings of 36 was indicative of the scoring rate. He faced 149 balls in 221 minutes and hit three fours.

Australian captain Allan Border, keen to vary his attack, put himself on for five overs. He was rewarded by catching Jones for 18 off his own left-arm off-cutter.

Yesterday champion New Zealand pace bowler Richard Hadlee made a spectacular start to his last home Test match, taking five wickets as Australia collapsed for 110.

Australia inched past their previous lowest Test score against New Zealand of 103, pos-

ted in Auckland four seasons ago.

Hadlee, who last month became the only person to take 400 Test wickets, made the most of a moist and slow-playing basin reserve wicket to spearhead a professional bowling and fielding effort by New Zealand.

The Australian batsmen struggled in difficult batting conditions after captain Allan Border surprisingly elected to bat first. The match was shortened by one session to allow ground staff to mop up after torrential rain earlier this week.

Wright said later he was relieved to have lost the toss, although he said he probably would have gambled and bowled first. "But it was six of one and a half dozen of the other," he told reporters. "The wicket was damp in patches yesterday, but it had dried considerably today."

"So I don't think it was an error at all on Allan's part."

Hadlee, who is playing his last Test in New Zealand, took his 100th five-wicket haul in a first class match.

But it was Danny Morrison, the pretender to Hadlee's title as New Zealand's main strike bowler who made the first breakthrough. He bowled opening batsman Geoff Marsh in the second over of the match when the score was four.

Hadlee struck five runs later, trapping David Boon leg before wicket, before Morrison did the same to Mark Taylor and then Border to have Australia 12 for four.

Australia still had a chance to rescue their innings with in-form Dean Jones. He hit a typically aggressive 20 and was the only Australian confident enough to bat out of his crease before driving a comfortable catch to Wright at mid-off from Martin Snedden's bowling.

Snedden grabbed his second wicket soon after when Ian Healy was bowled hitting across the line.

The rest of the innings belonged to Hadlee as he took the last four Australian wickets. Bowling straight on a demanding length, he continued to get assistance from the difficult batting surface.

All-rounder Steve Waugh and off-spinner Peter Taylor were the only other batsman to provide resistance.

Waugh made 25 before having his offstump knocked over by Hadlee, while Taylor was brilliantly caught by Wright off Hadlee after top scoring with 29.

## Scoreboard

AUSTRALIA first innings	
M. Taylor lbw b Morrison	4
G. Marsh b Morrison	4
D. Boon lbw b Hadlee	0
A. Border lbw b Morrison	1
D. Jones c Wright b Snedden	25
S. Waugh b Hadlee	25
I. Healy b Snedden	0
P. Taylor c Wright b Hadlee	29
G. Campbell lbw b Hadlee	4
C. Rackemann not out	6
T. Alderman b Hadlee	4
Extras (lb-5 nb-7)	13
Total (from 45.2 overs)	110
Fall of wickets: 1-42-9.3-9.4-12.5-38-6-44-7-70-8-87-9-103	
Bowling: R. Hadlee 16.2-5-39-5 (nb-2), D. Morrison 10-4-22-3, M. Snedden 15-3-33-2 (nb-5), K. Rutherford 2-0-8-0, J. Bracewell 2-1-2-0	
NEW ZEALAND first innings (over- night 18 for no wicket)	
J. Wright c Healy b Alderman	36
T. Franklin c Marsh b P. Taylor	28
A. Jones c b Border	18
M. Snedden not out	0
M. Greatbatch not out	4
Extras (lb-3 nb-2 b-2)	7
Total (for 3 wks from 59 overs)	93
Fall of wickets: 1-48-2-49-3-89	
To bat: K. Rutherford, J. Crowe, R. Hadlee, I. Smith, J. Bracewell, D. Morrison	
Bowling: T. Alderman 14-7-20-1 (nb-1), C. Rackemann 14-9-18-0, P. Taylor 17-9-23-1, G. Campbell 9-2-21-0 (nb-1), A. Border 5-3-6-1	

# W. Indies outplay England

GEORGETOWN, March 16, (Reuters): Gordon Greenidge hit a superb 77 yesterday to guide West Indies to a comfortable seven wickets win over England in an unofficial one-day international arranged in place of the final day of the rain-ravaged second Test.

Needing only 167 to win in 49 overs, the West Indies cruised home with more than eight overs to spare. They have now won their last four one-day internationals against England and remarkably their last 15 one-day encounters in the Caribbean.

England, batting on a lively pitch earlier, made only 166 for nine.

Curly Ambrose, in his first appearance for the West Indies this year, dispelled any doubts about his fitness with four for 18 and only Graham Gooch and Robin Bailey, in his first innings for 39 days, offered any real resistance. Both scored 42.

The outcome was never in doubt after an opening stand of 88 in 20 overs between Greenidge and Clayton Lambert, who was making his international debut. A left-hander from Guyana, Lambert delighted his home crowd with some attacking stroke-play.

His 48 took him only 64 balls and included four boundaries and a straight six off Capel. He was bowled trying to reverse sweep Eddie Hemmings.

Greenidge, who pulled both Capel and Gus Fraser for sixes as well as hitting eight fours, faced 122 balls and gave one chance when on 24, Capel dropping a fierce return catch.

He was finally out leg before to Fraser trying to pull when only 15 were required for victory.

The only other success for England came when Richie Richardson, who scored seven, drove a half-volley from Gladstone Small straight to mid-off.

England's opening pair survived until the seventh over when Wayne Larkins received a brushy lifer from Ian Bishop who took an easy return catch. In



Greenidge: scored 77

his next over, Robin Smith was caught behind.

Erna Moseley, replacing Bishop, beat Gooch four times before he had Allan Lamb caught at second slip for nine before Gooch and Alec Stewart were bowled in successive overs by Hooper.

Bailey and Jack Russell combined to produce the best stand of the innings with 47 in eight overs before Bailey went when he drove a full toss back to Ambrose.

West Indies cricket captain Viv Richards is suffering from a bad case of haemorrhoids which could keep him out of next week's third Test and possibly the rest of the series against England, manager Clive Lloyd said yesterday.

"Viv has had a recurrence of his piles problem which started troubling him in the first Test in Jamaica and has got worse since then," said Lloyd.

"We are hoping he won't need an operation, but until we see how he responds to a course of treatment it's difficult to say whether he will be fit enough for the third Test," he added. Lloyd said Richards was put on a special diet but it has been hard to keep to in Guyana because of the spicy food.

If surgery is the only answer, then Richards could be out of

action for weeks. Richards had an operation for the problem in 1988 and scarcely played at all last year.

## Scoreboard

ENGLAND	
G. Gooch b Hooper	42
W. Larkins c b Bishop	1
R. Smith c Dujon b Bishop	1
A. Lamb c Best b Moseley	9
A. Stewart b Hooper	1
R. Bailey c b Ambrose	39
D. Capel c Dujon b Ambrose	42
J. Russell c Best b Ambrose	1
G. Small c Dujon b Ambrose	1
E. Hemmings not out	0
A. Fraser not out	0
Extras (lb-2 lb-9 nb-13 nb-2)	26
Total (nine wickets, 49 overs)	166
Innings closed	
Fall of wickets: 1-13-2-18-3-47-48-5-89-6-103-7-150-8-151-9-166	
Bowling: Bishop 7-2-22-2, Ambrose 9-1-18-4, Moseley 10-1-48-1, Bishop 9-1-31-0, Hooper 10-0-29-2, Best 3-0-0-0	

WEST INDIES

G. Greenidge lbw b Fraser		77
C. Lambert b Hemmings		4
R. Richardson c Capel b Small		7
C. Hooper not out		7
C. Best not out		4
Extras (lb-2 w-4 nb-3)		9
Total (40.2 overs)		167
Fall of wickets: 1-48-2-105-3-152		
To bat: K. Rutherford, J. Crowe, R. Hadlee, I. Smith, J. Bracewell, D. Morrison		
Bowling: Capel 10-1-40-0, Small 7-2-32-1, Fraser 9-2-35-1, Bishop 5-2-22-0, Hemmings 10-1-37-1		
Result: West Indies won by seven wickets		

# Lamazou sets world record

LES SABLES D'OLONNE, France, March 16, (Reuters): French yachtsman Titouan Lamazou broke the world record for a single-handed round-the-world voyage today when he reached land after 109 days 08 hours 48 minutes at sea.

Lamazou, leader of the Globe Challenge non-stop race since shortly after it started on November 26, shattered the previous fastest sailing, set in a trimaran last year by his compatriot Olivier de Kersauson in a time of 125 days 19 hours.

Despite the record he achieved in his 20-metre sloop Ecureuil d'Aquitaine, Lamazou was still not certain of victory in the race when he docked.

His nearest rival, fellow-Frenchman Loeik Peyron, was awarded a 14-and-a-half hour bonus for going to the aid of another competitor Philippe Poupon. But Peyron was reported to be more than 200 miles behind and unlikely to be able to win.

Of the 13 yachtsmen who set sail, only seven are left in the race — all of them French.

## Soviets win

REYKJAVIK, March 16, (Reuters): The Soviet Union confirmed its supremacy in team chess by narrowly winning the Reykjavik chess summit series yesterday, but only after a gripping finish in which the Soviet team stared defeat in the face.

The Soviet team needed to score one-and-a-half points from two difficult games against the United States in order to retain their slender half-point edge in the week-long competition.

Soviet grandmaster Artur Yusupov made a fighting comeback against America's Boris Gulko on top board, from what experts had said was an impossible position.

The Nordic team tied with Britain in another hard-fought sixth round match that experts said could have gone either way.

## Mason triumphs

LONDON, March 16, (AP): British heavyweight champion Gary Mason scored his 34th consecutive victory by outpointing Everett "Big Foot" Martin of the US in a 16-round non-title contest Wednesday night.

Mason knocked Martin down in the first round and referee Dave Parris gave Mason the victory by 98-1/2 points to 97.

Mason, who at 245 pounds (111 kilos) outweighed Martin by 11 pounds (5 kilos), had won 31 of his first 32 fights inside the distance but now has laboured for 10 rounds in each of his last two fights.

Martin, who was a cruiser-weight two years ago and is flabby as a result of the large weight increase in the last 24 months, cut Mason's right eyelid in the third round.

"It was Martin's ninth defeat in 27 professional fights.

# Calcavecchia and Mudd share lead

PONTE VEDRA, Fla., March 16, (Reuters): Sure putting by Mark Calcavecchia and Jodie Mudd enabled them to share the first round lead at the \$1.5 million Players Championship golf tournament with five-under-par 67s yesterday.

Australian David Graham and David Edwards were tied for second place at four-under-par 68 and a group of 10 players led by Nick Price of Zimbabwe, Tom Watson, Fred Couples and Steve Pate were another stroke back at three-under 69.

Calcavecchia, last year's British Open champion, has been one of the hottest golfers on the US PGA Tour in recent weeks. He has three runner-up finishes this year including second place finishes in his last two starts.

Calcavecchia, who recorded eight birdies and three bogeys yesterday, lost the Doral-Ryder Open in a playoff to Australian Greg Norman two weeks ago and last weekend was second to John Huston in Coral Springs, Florida.

"I putted great," said Calcavecchia, who finished his round with consecutive birdies. "My short game is back and I feel good about that. I hit every putt where I was aiming it for the last 13 holes."

Mudd also credited his putting game for his fine round.

"All-in-all, I had a hot putter," Mudd said. "This was the best putting round I've had all year, but I'm glad I did because I didn't hit it that well from tee-to-green."

Graham shot six birdies and two bogeys, while Edwards carded five birdies and one bogey.

Graham, a former US Open champion who has played just two tournaments this year, was surprised by his play.

In Tenerife, German Garrido, brother of Spanish golf veteran Antonio Garrido, kept everyone waiting at the Tenerife Open yesterday before posting the leading score.

He was last man off the Amarilla course but his six-under par first round 66 put him first in

the field. Behind Garrido on 67 was a trio of relative unknowns — Irishman Brendan McGovern, Frenchman Marc Farry and American Christopher Cookson, along with Ryder Cup Spaniard Jose-Maria Canizares and Argentine Vicente Fernandez.

Defending champion Jose-Maria Olazabal of Spain was among a quartet on 68.

In Tucson, Spain's Marta Figueras-Dotti caught fire on the back nine to grab a share of the first round lead with Nancy Rubin at the \$300,000 Tucson Open golf tournament yesterday.

Rubin and Figueras-Dotti each shot five-under-par 67s on the 6,243-yard Randolph Park north golf course, but the Spaniard did not take her place on the leader board until she had completed a mediocre front side.

Amy Benz, who finished second at the recent Hawaiian Open, was alone in second place at four-under 68 and Becky Pearson and Kate Rogerson were two strokes back of the leaders at 69.

# Jabriya triumph twice to take Netball League title

KUWAIT'S BMW Netball League have had a busy ten days recently with six matches being played and a trip to Dubai being fitted in.

The four matches played on Monday March 12, have decided the League winners, Jahriya, and the final match decided the place for runners-up which went to Gulf Jets.

Due to previous postponements, Jahriya had two matches against Gulf Sharks this week and were victorious in both, taking the first match 22-9 and the second 17-8. Both teams played well although there was rather a lot of contact in both circles.

Heather Goodman has a steady unobtrusive game for Sharks but Diane Parry's loud encouragement could not pull the team back once Jahriya had opened up a significant lead.

A much more closely contested match was between Gulf Jets and the rising stars of the League, Salwa and Salmiya, who seem to have overcome their earlier shooting difficulties. New goal-shooter, Jill Wilde, is making a significant difference. Both



The Kuwait 'A' squad.

teams were scoring one for one and it was not until the final quarter that SAS began to slowly increase their slender one goal lead. Final score was 26-21.

The final game of the evening saw Gulf Jets take the runners-up



The Kuwait 'B' team.

position. Up to this point, Jets, Salwa and Salmiya and Fahabel had been in contention for 2nd place and Gulf Jets defeat of Fahabel 31-13 secured the position. The Fahabel cause was not helped by the fact that not all

their team turned up and those who played did well to give Gulf Jets some fair competition. Third place will be decided by the final games taking place on the March 19.

The previous weekend two

teams from Kuwait flew to Dubai to take part in the Gulf Netball Championships. In rather a controversial seeding arrangement, all the teams were divided into two sections, an 'A' section and a 'B' section, which

virtually guaranteed that the strongest teams would not rise naturally to the top of the pile but would in fact eliminate each other.

The Kuwait teams performed creditably against strong and long-established Gulf sides. Kuwait 'A' were beaten 7-6 in a very close match against Dubai 'A', the eventual runners-up of the tournament. They beat Muscat 'A' by 6-2 and were defeated by Bahrain 'A', the immensely-talented winners of the tournament. This, the first entry into the championship by the BMW League, was an enjoyable and educational experience and both teams performed well on the day.

Encouraged by this visit, and with sponsorship from BMW, Kuwait hope to host an invitation tournament later this year with teams coming from all over the Gulf.

## Standings

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Jabriya	7	7	0	0	143	74	10
Gulf Jets	7	4	3	0	138	120	8
Salwa & Salmiya	7	2	4	1	128	135	5
Fahabel	7	2	5	0	111	143	4
Gulf Sharks	6	1	4	1	81	108	3

# Zimbabwe draw with England A

BULAWAYO, Zimbabwe, March 16, (Reuters): England A chose the safe option of playing for a draw on the final day of the second five-day cricket match against Zimbabwe yesterday to retain their 1-0 lead in the three-match series.

Resuming at 10 for no wicket and with a 136-run lead, England A decided against trying to force a result and took 91 overs to compile 133 for five in their second innings before the match was called off an hour early.

They lost their first three wickets for 49 runs and by lunch had struggled to 62 for three. In the two-hour session between lunch and tea they added just 33 off 36 overs for the loss of a fourth wicket.

Richard Blakey, who made 221 in the first innings, took 147 balls to score 18, while captain Mark Nicholas, batted out 419 overs for his unbeaten 37.

Zimbabwe captain David Houghton criticised England's attitude. "I just couldn't understand their batting, letting fall tosses and half volleys go unpunished," he said.

"It has given our bowlers a lot of confidence, but at the same time if this is what professional cricket is all about we're not interested."

Nicholas admitted the day's cricket was dull, but said: "We had no alternative but to bat all day."

# Gold medallist looking for thief

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand, March 16, (AP): Commonwealth Games superheavyweight boxing champion Mike Kenny has a message for the thief who stole his gold medal: "Wait until I get my hands on you."

The medal, which New Zealand's Ladi Alhaman of Ghana in the Games final in Auckland in January, was stolen from a friend's car on Wednesday night.

"I had the medal in its metal case in the car's glovebox, but someone smashed a window and took it," he said.

Kenny had planned to show the medal to young boxers at an awards night.

He said he was "optimistic" about getting the medal back. "It's not the sort of thing anyone could market anywhere like a video or a stereo," he said. "It's of infinite value to me, obviously, but I can't see it being much use to anyone else."

Police said today they were investigating the theft.



The Kuwait netball teams in action during one of their matches in the Gulf Netball Championships.





## SPORTS BRIEFS

## Aouita fails

OVIEDO, Spain, March 16. (Reuters): Moroccan Said Aouita failed by more than five seconds yesterday in his attempt to break the 17-year-old 3,000 metres indoor world record. Aouita clocked seven minutes 44.23 seconds on the short 180-metre track in Oviedo. The existing mark of 7:39.2 was set by Belgian Emiel Puttemans in 1973.

## Diseased heart

LOS ANGELES, March 16. (Reuters): College basketball star Hank Gathers, who died after collapsing on court during a game early this month, was killed by a diseased, inflamed heart muscle, the Los Angeles County coroner's office said yesterday.

## Confidence vote

PARIS, March 16. (Reuters): The bodies which govern world motor sport gave their controversial president Jean-Marie Balestre a vote of confidence yesterday after his public rows with Ayrton Senna and the organisers of the Le Mans 24 hours race.

## Mitchell wins

GROSSETO, Italy, March 16. (Reuters): South Africa's Brian Mitchell out-punched his tenacious American challenger Jackie Beardsley on Wednesday to retain his World Boxing Association (WBA) junior light-weight title by a clear points win.

## England debut

LONDON, March 16. (Reuters): Chen Xinhua may make his England debut against China in the World Team Cup table tennis competition next May as a stand-in for Carl Preen, whose father has been the former Chinese star's most vocal opponent.

## Cup preparations

NEW YORK, March 16. (Reuters): The United States will complete its World Cup soccer preparations with matches against Poland, Switzerland and Liechtenstein, the US Soccer Federation (USSF) announced on Wednesday.

## Cup revelation

MADRID, March 16. (Reuters): Former England and Manchester United soccer hero Bobby Charlton said on Wednesday the Soviet Union team would be the revelation of the World Cup in Italy.

## Speedy settlement

AMSTERDAM, March 16. (Reuters): Dutch Soccer Association (KNVB) chairman Jo van Marle has called for a speedy settlement to the uncertainty surrounding the future of this Libregas as national coach.

## Arsenal player

LONDON, March 16. (Reuters): Irish international striker Niall Quinn yesterday agreed to leave English First Division champions Arsenal and sign for struggling Manchester City in an £800,000 (\$1.25 million) transfer.

## Anderlecht out

BRUSSELS, March 16. (Reuters): Holders Anderlecht were knocked out of the quarterfinals of the Belgian Soccer Cup on Wednesday by FC Liege, their conquerors in the competition for the third time in six years.

## Security guaranteed

BERNE, March 16. (Reuters): Partisan Belgrade have guaranteed security for next week's Cup Winners' Cup tie against Dinamo Bucharest in Titograd, a European Football Union (UEFA) official said yesterday.

## Free services

BERNE, March 16. (Reuters): The Romanian Soccer Federation could collect 300,000 Swiss francs (\$200,000) when Romania play Switzerland on April 3 because all the Swiss players, officials and organizers have offered their services free of charge.

## Player collapses

LONDON, March 16. (Reuters): Derby County reserve midfielder Steve Taylor was taken to hospital yesterday after collapsing at the English First Division club's training ground. Taylor, 20, was in intensive care at the Queen's Medical Centre in Nottingham and said to be in a critical condition. The club declined to say why he collapsed.

## Norton's Coin shocks Desert Orchid

CHELTONHAM, England, March 16. (Reuters): The Desert Orchid fairytale came unstuck yesterday when, in the biggest shock in the history of the Cheltenham Gold Cup, he was beaten into third place by 100-1 outsider Norton's Coin.

Desert Orchid, last year's winner, started 11-10 on favourite to repeat the feat. But after showing prominently until the last fence he could find no more on the stiff uphill finish.

Tohy Tobias (8-1), ridden by Mark Pitman, took up the running going to the last of the 22 fences, and then, to the astonishment of the huge crowd, Norton's Coin, irritated by all the experts, threw down his late challenge under jockey Graham McCourt.

In a desperate battle to the line Norton's Coin, whose previous runs had been in handicap company, got up in the final 50 metres and went away to win by three-quarters of a length.

Desert Orchid, ridden by Richard Dunwoody, was four lengths away in third place, ahead of stable companion Cavies Clown, the mount of Graham Bradley.

Norton's Coin is trained in Carmarthen, Wales, by Sirrell Griffiths, who also owns the nine-year-old gelding. Griffiths combines training with running a cattle farm and has only two other horses under his care.

# Liverpool overcome QPR

## Oldham brush aside Villa



Oldham's Holden (left) and a Villa player light for the ball. (Reuters wirephoto)

LONDON, March 16. (Reuters): Second Division Oldham Athletic added Aston Villa to their list of big-name victims on Wednesday, demolishing the League leaders 3-0 to qualify for the semifinals of the English FA Cup.

Holders Liverpool also took their place in the last four, defeating Queens Park Rangers 1-0 in their quarterfinal replay to set up a semifinal against Crystal Palace, who they hammered 9-0 in the First Division earlier in the season.

Oldham, who have already reached the League Cup final and who knocked out last year's FA Cup finalists Everton in a fifth round second replay on Saturday, easily swept aside Villa and now face Manchester United.

Both semifinal matches are on April 8.

Playing on their artificial pitch where they are undefeated in 35 matches and where they have beaten four First Division clubs in as many months, Oldham took the lead in the 37th minute through striker Rick Holden and never looked back.

Holden gave goalkeeper Nigel Spink little chance with a shot from outside the area into the far corner of the net.

Villa defender Chris Price added to the First Division club's misfortunes with an own-goal in the 50th minute — returning the ball back to an empty goal as Spink rushed towards him.

Eighteen minutes later midfielder Neil Redfernan wrapped

up the match with a low shot that Spink was unable to hold, putting Oldham in to their first FA Cup semifinal for 77 years.

Liverpool, held 2-2 at QPR on Sunday after going 2-1 ahead, settled the replay in the fourth minute at Anfield with a goal from England striker Peter Beardsley. The win ensured their fifth FA Cup semifinal in the last six years.

It was Beardsley's 15th goal of the season but the match was hardly a vintage performance with Liverpool stumbling through the remaining 86 minutes against a lively QPR who have never won at Anfield but who earned a standing ovation for trying.

Liverpool and Manchester United clash Sunday in a fixture that is traditionally one of the highlights of the season.

Liverpool is currently in second position on the table with 53 points, two points behind Aston Villa, but with a game in hand.

Manchester United has had a very disappointing season in the League and is in some danger of relegation, so this is a game of great significance for both sides.

United is still without injured midfielder duo Bryan Robson and Neil Webb, and Neil Webb, and Liverpool's playmakers Ronnie Whelan and Steve McMahon will be hoping to exploit their absence.

Defending title-holder Arsenal is in third place, eight points behind Aston Villa, and desperately in need of full points

from its London derby against Chelsea.

Arsenal has had trouble scoring consistently this season, but in young striker Kevin Campbell, manager George Graham may have uncovered a real star of the future.

Two of the English game's most charismatic managers, Coventry's John Sillett and Sheffield Wednesday's Ron Atkinson, get the opportunity to pit their wits against each other when their teams clash at Hillsborough. Coventry has been the quiet achiever of the season, and is currently in fourth place in the standings, 11 points behind Villa.

## Results

Results of British soccer matches on Wednesday:

English Football Association (FA) Cup

Sixth round

Oldham 3 Aston Villa 0

Oldham meet Manchester United in semifinal at Maine Road, Manchester on April 8

English FA Cup sixth round replay

Liverpool 1 Q.P. Rangers 0

(Liverpool play Crystal Palace in other semifinal at Villa Park, Birmingham on April 8)

English Division One

Manchester U 0 Everton 0

Norwich 0 Coventry 0

(Postponed: Liverpool v Wimbledon)

English Division Two

Brighton 2 Sheffield U 2

West Bromwich 3 Bradford 0

Scottish Division One

Ayr 1 Clyde 1

Falkirk 4 Hamilton 1

(Postponed: Clyde v Hamilton)

Scottish Division Two

East Fife 3 Dumbarton 1

E. Stirling 1 Montrose 1

English Division Four

Hereford 2 Colchester 0

## Italians discount British fears

ROME, March 16. (Reuters): Italian officials yesterday discounted fears by British police that

Dutch and English soccer fans were arranging fights in Sardinia during the World Cup.

A senior English police officer said this week that Dutch and English fans, the most feared international boogymen, had been in contact to arrange clashes during the first round of the World Cup, when their teams meet on the island of Sardinia.

A spokesman for the Interior Ministry said no such reports had reached Italy and added: "Our preparations are at an advanced stage. I do not think there will be security problems during this

World Cup."

Cesare Martellino, a magistrate advising the

local organising committee Italia 90 on security problems, said:

"We can't say the fans don't have these plans but I think we can at present rule out major disorders taking place. The measures being studied are very tough and I don't think such clashes will be possible."

Police superintendent Adrian Appleby of Britain's National Football Intelligence Unit said on television on Tuesday that Dutch and English fans were preparing clashes.

Roberto Pappalardo, secretary of Italia 90 in

Sardinia said: "It's hard to understand how a

police official can make statements of this kind. It's incredible."

There had already been close co-ordination between the three countries. "The police will not be sitting with their arms closed waiting for the hooligans to cause trouble," he said.

It would be extremely difficult for violent fans to reach Sardinia by sea or air without being

detected.

Martellino said rival supporters would be met on arrival and isolated. "They will never have the chance to meet from the moment of arrival until the moment they enter the stadium."

## Malaysian surprises Frost

LONDON, March 16. (UPI): Morten Frost, the

men's No. 1 seed in the All-England Badminton Championships, crashed out of the quarterfinals 6-15, 6-15 against unseeded Malaysian Rashid Sidek yesterday.

It is the first time since 1981 that Frost will not contest an All-England final. He has won the trophy four times, as well as being beaten finalist four times, including the past two years.

Sidek, who won the singles gold medal at the Commonwealth Games in Auckland, New Zealand, in January, dictated the pace of the game throughout and quickly took control of the first set.

Frost, 32 next month, rarely used the smash which has been a key weapon in his near-total domination of badminton over the past decade.

In contrast, 21-year-old Sidek grew in confidence throughout the game and repeatedly answered Frost's lobs with devastating smashes past forehand and backhand. The England-based Dane was increasingly on the defence in the second set, gifting Sidek key points as the game began to slip away. He was felled at 6-13 and mis-judged a lob for match point then over-hit a return past the baseline for the match as Sidek raised his arms in triumph.

Earlier in the day, Joko Suprianto had a marathon struggle of one hour 12 minutes to overcome England's Darren Hall to reach the quarters. Suprianto finally prevailed 9-15, 15-10, 15-6 in a match of athleticism and power, which Hall looked

like winning when he stood 11-9 in the second game.

After the match, 24-year-old Hall revealed he had damaged his Achilles tendon in his game Wednesday and had gone on court without treatment against Suprianto.

It was different story for joint fifth favourite Eddy Kurniawan, who was involved in sullen battle with Andrei Antropov of the Soviet Union.

The probing first set went to Kurniawan 15-10, but the Soviet player controlled the second from the start taking it 15-3.

Kurniawan stepped up the pace in the final game and closed the door after Antropov had rallied from 3-13 to 10-13.

Sidek's semifinal opponent is joint fifth seed Zhao Jianhua who survived a 17-18 first set reverse to down Indonesia's Allan Budi Kusuma, the joint third seed, 15-6, 15-9 in the next two games.

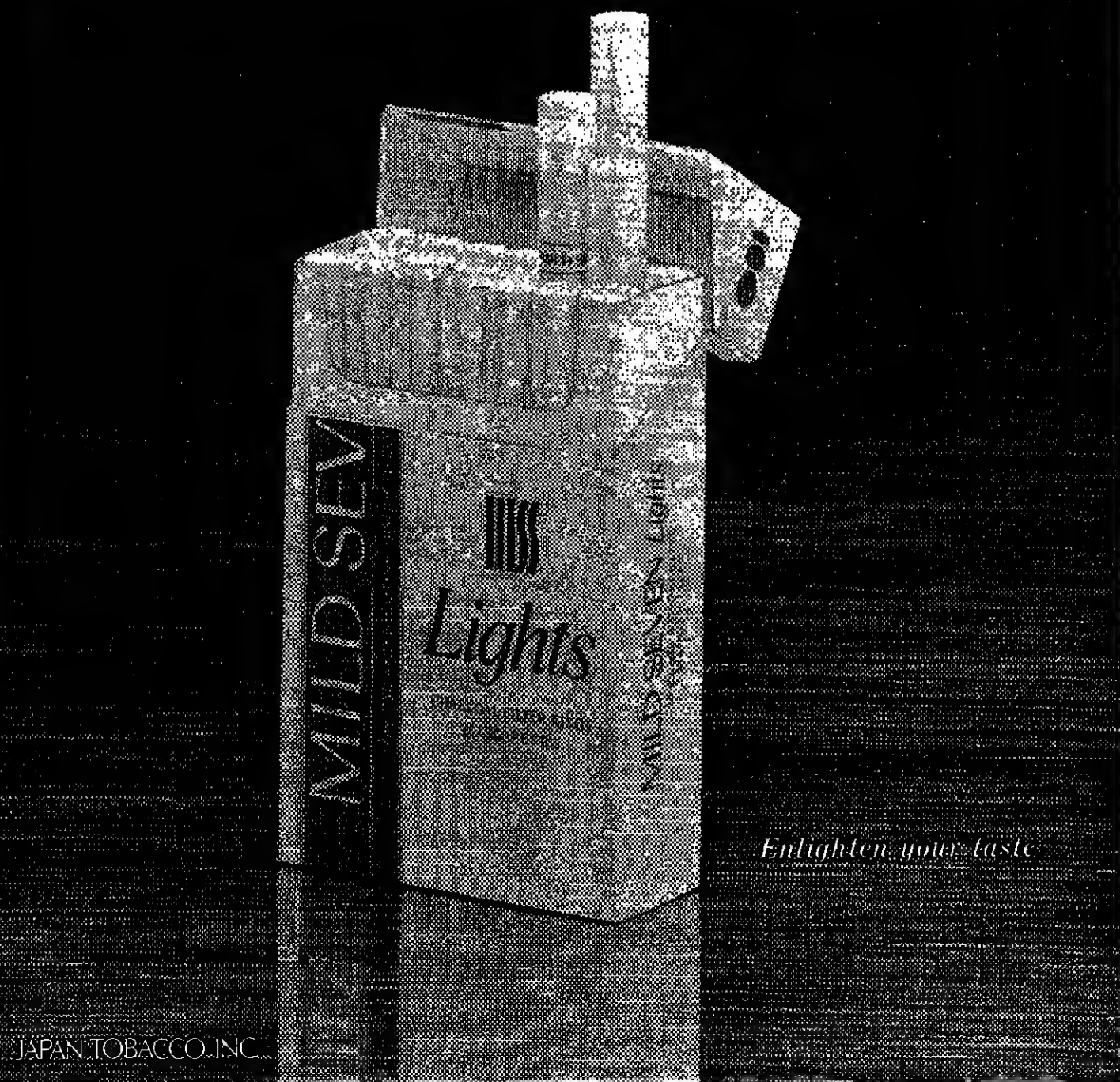
Sidek noted he had met the left handed Zhao in the World Cup semi-finals last year and lost 15-5, 16-6. Zhao won the All-England title in 1985, beating Frost.

The second major surprise followed quickly when second favourite Foo Kok Keong of Malaysia was completely outplayed by joint Suprianto 15-1, 15-4.

Joint fifth seed Eddy Kurniawan will be Suprianto's next opponent. He won an All-Indonesian Marathon 15-5, 16-17, 15-12 against the unseeded Haryanto Arbi.

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## SPORTS

## Uttley and McGeechan behind unique rugby union showdown

LONDON, March 16, (Reuters): Roger Uttley and Ian McGeechan, close friends on two successful British Lions tours, will be the man behind a unique rugby union showdown tomorrow.

The two men were both members of the 1974 Lions who beat South Africa 3-0 and they combined last year to coach the successful Lions side in Australia.

Now they coach opposing sides as England meet Scotland at Murrayfield in a match which will for the first time decide the Five Nations Championship, the Grand Slam and the triple crown.

"One of the features of the present England side is a capacity to play good all-around football," Uttley said this week.

"They have proved themselves bungry

for victory and want to put the record straight after so many past disappointing performances."

McGeechan said the match was an "unbelievable climax."

"I have never coached any team to lose," he added. "My hope is that we take advantage of our chances."

England start clear favourites after a season in which they have developed their best side for a decade.

They handed Wales their biggest defeat ever in the championship and France their heaviest championship loss for 10 years.

With one match to go they have already exceeded their previous highest points total and fullback Simon Hodgkinson is

within six points of overtaking Dusty Hare's record total for a championship season.

Uttley, a member of the last England side to win the Grand Slam 10 years ago, believes the present side is superior.

"There is a more assertive and competitive edge, underpinned by fitness, compared with 1980 and these guys can

play for longer periods.

"I was fit according to the standards of the day but the standards have lifted out of recognition since then," he said.

At the centre of their new found confidence is flyhalf Rob Andrew, who has blossomed after his success with the Lions in Australia.

He is reunited with scrumhalf Richard

Hill, a far more polished player now after three years out of the England side, and the duo have quickly established themselves as the best halfback pair in Europe.

"It helps, perhaps, that we both felt we might be finished for England," Andrew says. "But back we came, didn't we? And I cannot tell you how much better it feels the second time around."

## SPORTS BRIEFS

## Sheraton bridge

RESULTS of Sheraton Team of Four bridge game held on Tuesday:

- N/S:  
1. Dr Adel & Dona Matterny  
2. Tiab & Sherin  
3. Dr Saad & Ghani

E/W:  
1. Sabri & Oskay  
2. Carsten & Drexler  
3. D'Souza & Pereira

On Friday, March 23, at 3.00 pm a general body meeting will be held after the tournament to elect new committee. Prizes will be distributed.

## NBA games

NEW YORK, March 16, (Reuters): Results of National Basketball Association (NBA) games played on Thursday:

Cleveland	112	LA Lakers	96
Detroit	110	San Antonio	98
Minnesota	102	New York	82
Milwaukee	96	Washington	91
Utah	117	Seattle	95
Portland	128	Golden State	121
Houston	92	Sacramento	86

## Ghedina wins

ARE, Sweden, March 16, (AP): Christian Ghedina of Italy won the men's penultimate downhill of the season yesterday and Austrian veteran Helmut Hoeflechner clinched the season title in that discipline by placing third.

## Chief executive

KEY BISCAYNE, FLA., March 16, (Reuters): The Association of Tennis Professionals announced yesterday that Hamilton Jordan was stepping down as chief executive of the governing body of the men's professional tour in favour of a company executive, Mark Miles.

## Title fight

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J., March 16, (Reuters): Australian Jeff Harding defends his World Boxing Council (WBC) light-heavyweight title on Sunday against Argentine Nestor Giovanni, whom Harding says brought out the worst in him the last time they fought.

## African Cup

ALGIERS, March 16, (Reuters): Zambia beat Senegal 1-0 on Thursday to clinch third place in the 17th African Nations Cup. Senegal missed three chances in the first half when Moussa N'Dao, Abdoulaye Diallo and Sylvester Coly respectively found themselves alone in front of Zambian goalkeeper David Chabala but failed to score.

## NHL matches

NEW YORK, March 16, (Reuters): Results of National Hockey League (NHL) Games played yesterday:

Boston	3	Winnipeg	3
Philadelphia	5	New York	4
Pittsburgh	6	Detroit	1
Chicago	6	Quebec	3
Vancouver	6	St Louis	3
Calgary	5	New Jersey	4

## World Cup

WELLINGTON, March 16, (Reuters): The New Zealand Rugby Football Union (NZRFU) has reappointed Alex Wyllie to coach the All Blacks through the 1991 World Cup.

## Evergreen outplay Lanka Colts for title

## Babar voted Man of the Match

EVERGREEN cricketers added another trophy to their cabinet when they thrashed Lanka Colts by six wickets yesterday at the EPI Ground to clinch the Bhutto Memorial Cricket Trophy.

Hiran won the toss for Lanka Colts and opted to bat through Nalaka and Ramzan but with the total at 38, Nalaka was bowled by Asad Baig. Chris added fifty runs before becoming the second victim of Asad Baig, caught by Shahid for well-made 22. Ramzan was unlucky to be run-out for 49 well-scored runs.

Saneka and Ralph gave a late boost to the total as they scored 82 not-out and 36 runs respectively. Saneka's excellent innings was studded with two sixes and six boundaries.

When the allotted 45 overs were completed, Lanka Colts' total stood at 247 for six wickets. Hiran 25 was the other worth-mentioning batsman. For Evergreen, skipper Asad Baig chipped in with two wickets which Anjum, Shehzad Jr and Jamil Khan bagged a piece each.

Requiring a run-rate of 5.5 per over, Evergreen lost opener Shehzad Sr (17) with the score at 32 and Jamil Khan was well taken by Hanibal just after six runs. Asad Baig joined Bahar and both realising the difficult situation decided to put their heads down and never spare any loose delivery. Both placed the ball well and always waited for the right ball before smashing it. The partnership yielded 122 valuable runs before Ralph dislodged Babar's stumps when he was on 87. His magnificent innings contained a six and four hits to the



Asad Baig (right) lifts the champions trophy.

fence.

Nalaka created a bit of scare by having Asad Baig caught by Ralph. He hit 44 runs. After Baig's dismissal, experienced Anjum Raza and young Sikander did not allow the bowlers to dominate the proceedings and scored briskly. Anjum was more aggressive and cracked four towering sixes and two bound-

daries as he raced to 53 unbeaten runs. Sikander hit three boundaries in his 28 runs. Evergreen surpassed their opponents' total in 41.5 overs with six wickets to spare.

The tournament had been organised by the Gulf Cricket League and sponsored by People's Club, Kuwait. The final was witnessed by a large crowd,

including the ambassadors of Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Malaysia and Bangladesh.

At the end of the match GCL secretary Sajid Raza and GCL president Nayyer Rizvi gave the details of the tournament.

Sri Lankan Ambassador Latif Sharifuddin awarded the winners trophy to Evergreen captain Asad Baig. He also distributed the prizes to the players of Evergreen Club. Pakistan's Ambassador Zahid Saeed gave the prizes to Lanka Colts' cricketers.

Both the winners and runners-up trophies were donated by Rafique Mirza secretary Peoples Club. Special prizes were awarded to Babar and Nalaka. Babar of Evergreen got an air ticket to Islamabad for being voted Man of the Match as Nalaka was given the Man of the Tournament prize for his performance throughout the tourney.

The umpires and the scorers were also given special prizes while one special prize was given to the son of late Manzoor Hussain, who died during this tournament. The respected dignitaries were presented with plaques by Dr Riaz Mahesar. The president Peoples' Club ladies wing, Tanzila Y. Dogar distributed the gifts amongst the children present.

Peoples Club sports chairman Yunus Chaudhry thanked all the ambassadors for gracing the occasion and special thanks were extended to Ashraf Khan of Kifco and G.A. Allana for their contributions towards the success of the tournament.

The match was supervised by Haji Sarfraz and Tahir-ul-Hassan.



The winners with guests and other officials. (Photos by Javed Basra)

## Al Arabi face Yarmouk as KFL action resumes

KUWAIT Football League action resumes today after an interruption of over two months.

The league was suspended temporarily to allow the national team to prepare for the Gulf Cup. Today, Al Arabi play Yarmouk at Yarmouk and Salmiya travel to Juleeb Al Shiyookh to take on Al Naser.

Arabi, now third in the table with 12 points from 11 matches, are looking for a good win at bottom-placed Yarmouk, with only 7 points. Jahra, the surprise team, are still the leaders with 17 points closely followed by Al Kuwait with 15 points. All teams have played an equal number of matches.

Yarmouk on the other hand will be certainly looking to repeat their first leg victory when they defeated Al Arabi 2-0 at their own grounds. Yarmouk are, however, precariously placed as they are at the bottom of the table and directly threatened with being relegated back to the Second Division. They were promoted to First Division just this season.

The second match will equally be important. Both Salmiya and Al Naser are at the bottom of the table. Al Naser is second from last and Salmiya is third last. Salmiya has 9 points and Al Naser has 8. Both matches will start at 3.45 pm.

## Karpov wins

KUALA LUMPUR, March 16, (Reuters): Anatoly Karpov of the Soviet Union yesterday won the fourth game to take a two point lead over Jan Timman of the Netherlands in the World Candidates Chess Final.

The game, which was adjourned on Tuesday, resumed with Timman, taking the black pieces, sealing the 61st move. Karpov, considered best by the grandmasters in the press centre.

Both sides had a bishop, knight and four pawns each in a complex position. They also had two connected passed pawns.

Timman of the Netherlands took time-out from the sixth game.

The game will now take place on Sunday with Karpov playing the white pieces. Each player is allowed one time-out in the 12-game match. Karpov has yet to use his.

Karpov leads Timman by 3.5 points to 1.5, with the winner the first player to reach 6.5 points. One point is awarded for a win and half a point for a draw.

## Capriati gets taste of the big time

## ATP names Becker Player of the Year

MIAMI, March 16, (Reuters): Wimbledon and US Open champion Boris Becker of West Germany received 1989 Player of the Year honours at the ATP awards dinner last night.

The 22-year-old world number two, who won five singles titles and posted a 14-3 record against other top 10-ranked players, earned the top individual award by a vote of the ATP's 500 members.

In addition to his two Grand Slam titles last year, Becker led West Germany to a second successive Davis Cup title over Sweden.

American Michael Chang, whose ranking jumped from 30th to fifth in the world last year, was named Most Improved Player of 1989. Chang became the youngest male ever to win a Grand Slam tournament with his stunning French Open title at 17.

Chang won the Best Newcomer of the Year award in 1988, an honour that went to Spain's Sergi Bruguera yesterday. Bruguera rose more than 300 places on the rankings computer to finish 1989 26th in the world.

Other awards went to Americans Rick Leach and Jim Pugh for Doubles Team of the Year and Goran Prpic of Yugoslavia for Comeback Player of the Year.

World number three Stefan Edberg of Sweden won the Sportsmanship Award.

Jennifer Capriati, the 13-year-old who cut her teeth as a

professional by reaching the Boca Raton final last week, gets her first taste of the big time in the International Players Championships which was to start in Key Biscayne, Fla., this evening.

The \$1.2 million event, which has pretensions to be regarded as the fifth Grand Slam, has been somewhat undermined by the men's tour's decision to cut it from 14 to 10 days and from 128 to 96 players.

But it is still one of the strongest events on the circuit and will give junior world number one Capriati valuable experience of a major senior tournament ahead of the Grand Slams.

Capriati, who grew up on Florida's tennis courts and is already being hailed as a successor to the retired Chris Evert, had been prepared to compete in the qualifying rounds but after her Boca Raton success has accepted a "wild card" entry into the main draw.

"I love to play in Florida because I have lived here all my life," Capriati said of her decision to include the event in the 12 she has elected to play this year. "If I play a really good player, that will be fun."

She is certain to be the centre of attention after her spectacular debut in which she became the youngest player to reach the final of a professional event, only losing after two tough sets to Argentine Gabriela Sabatini on Sunday.

The absence of the world's top



Becker: the best in 1989

two women's players — Steffi Graf has a hand injury and Martina Navratilova is resting — will help keep the spotlight trained on the youngster still 13 days off her 14th birthday.

Two of the world's top men are also absent — Wimbledon and

US Open champion Boris Becker has opted to miss the event and former world number one Mats Wilander of Sweden has withdrawn to take a break from tennis for at least a month.

World number one and defending champion Ivan Lendl

and Miloslav Mecir, both of Czechoslovakia, Stefan Edberg of Sweden and Americans John McEnroe, Andre Agassi, Aaron Krickstein and Tim Mayotte have all decided to take part despite the high heat and humidity that usually plague the tournament.

The International Players Championships were scaled down under the new ATP Tour scheduled, but tournament founder and chairman Butch Buchholz said he was pleased with the result.

"This is the players' event and has been created basically for them. This will be the best field we've ever had (on the men's side), and we are excited to be in a prominent position on the international tennis calendar," he said.

Sabatini, who defeated Evert in the final last year, said she was looking forward to a smaller draw because of the heat.

"If I don't have to play seven matches because I get a bye, that doesn't bother me. By the end of the second week, the heat hurts your game," she said.

"Every tournament is important," Lendl said. "This one is a little more important because it is not just one week, and most of the top players play in it. It is somewhere between a Grand Slam and a (one-week) tournament, but it is the biggest tournament since the Australian Open."

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